FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 DECEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Security, Military Situation — The Lebanese Army Command, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, extended the curfew in Beirut in the wake of the assassination of Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din, chief of the Druze religious judiciary. Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, the Druze political leader, accused the Phalangists of carrying out the murder, according to SANA.

Lebanese Army positions near Beirut came under renewed fire on 1 December, although the Security Arrangements Committee expressed "relative satisfaction" with the reduction in cease-fire violations and agreed to make efforts to stabilize the cease-fire and reopen Beirut airport, Beirut radio reported. At a Damascus press conference reported by the radio, PSP leader Junblatt likewise called for the strengthening of the cease-fire and stressed the need to reconvene the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva.

Al-Jumayyil-Reagan talks — President Amin al-Jumayyil said in remarks reported by Beirut radio that his talks with President Reagan covered the best way to implement "the agreements" and achieve common interests and goals. Noting that the sides had agreed on the need for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, Al-Jumayyil said the U.S. leaders expressed "full understanding" that extricating Lebanon from its current predicament is not only just and right but will also ensure the interests of its neighbors and the United States.

Israel

Shamir on U.S. Visit — Israel and the United States "see eye-to-eye" on developments in Lebanon and agree that Syria is the major obstacle to stability there, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir declared in remarks broadcast by IDF Radio on his return from Washington. Shamir said he made it clear to U.S. officials that Israel is prepared "at any moment" to renew peace negotiations within the Camp David framework with Egypt, Jordan, and "any element expressing interest in participating in these talks."

Military cooperation will be strengthened by joint Israeli-U.S. maneuvers and the establishment of emergency warehouses to increase Israel's preparedness for an emergency, he said, and Israel's economy will be assisted by larger than expected amounts of aid, a planned free trade zone, and measures to promote Israeli exports to the United States.

Answering questions from newsmen, Shamir noted that the political-military working group, scheduled to start work early in 1984, will attempt to find solutions to problems in Lebanon and will also discuss Syria's "aggressive intentions." He denied "rumors" from the United States that he had discussed the possibility of a further unilateral IDF withdrawal during his talks with U.S. leaders. Earlier, *HA'ARETZ* reported that Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens agreed not to take any unilateral steps in Lebanon, including withdrawal, without prior coordination with the United States.

Nuclear Weapons — While in Washington, Shamir announced that Israel has "no nuclear weapons," will "never use" such weapons, and will not be the first country in the Middle East to bring them into the region, *DAVAR* noted.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held another meeting with the northern Coordination Committee delegation in Tripoli and handed over a reply to former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, Karami announced that he had already received a "positive" written response from Nimr Salih, one of the Fatah dissident leaders, the radio said.

In his message to Karami, 'Arafat requested that a UN force supervise the withdrawal of his forces from Tripoli and called on Karami to specify security guarantees for the departing PLO fighters, according to a PLO spokesman cited by AFP.

Egypt

Ghali on U.S.-Israeli Cooperation — The increasing U.S.-Israeli cooperation at the expense of Arab-U.S. cooperation does not favor the peace process, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali affirmed in a magazine interview reported by MENA.

Trade With USSR — Egypt and the Soviet Union signed a new trade protocol aimed at increasing the value of trade exchange to 500 million pounds sterling in 1984, according to MENA.

Iraq

Iraq has not yet used its Super Etendard aircraft against Iran, President Saddam Husayn disclosed in an interview with Egypt's *AL-AHRAM* reported by AFP.

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'Arafat Requests UN Force To Oversee Withdrawal

NC011419 Paris AFP in English 1414 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Tripoli, Lebanon, Dec 1 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today requested a United Nations force to oversee the withdrawal of his beleaguered forces from the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli. Mr 'Arafat's spokesman, Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, said that the PLO leader submitted his request in a message sent earlier today to Rashid Karami, the former Lebanese Premier and Tripoli notable who is organising the evacuation of both loyalist and dissident Palestinian forces from the region. Mr Karami now lives in the Syrian capital, Damascus.

The Palestinian leader asked Mr Karami to spell out the guarantees for the security of his men during the withdrawal period, from the moment they left the frontline in Tripoli until they were safely out at sea aboard ships expected to pick them up in the port. Mr 'Arafat also said that those units within his loyalist force who had been forced out of the Syrian-controlled Al-Biqa' valley of southern Lebanon at the beginning of the year should be allowed to return there. Other members of his army would be evacuated to Tunisia, Algeria or the other Arab states to which they had been sent after last year's ceasefire agreement in Beirut after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Under the Karami plan, dissident forces seeking Mr 'Arafat's downfall would also be sent back to the places they came from to join the offensive against the PLO chief.

The spokesman refused to say how many loyalist fighters would evacuate. Asked about the figure of 4,000 cited in the press, he said "probably more."

Mr 'Abd ar-Rahman said the date of the evacuation "depends on others from now on," in what was believed to be a reference to the Syrians. "They can set the date when the boats, the security forces and the United Nations will be ready," he said.

He added that Mr 'Arafat wanted his men to return to the countries where they were stationed previously — among them Algeria, Tunisia, Yemen, Sudan and Iraq — on ships flying the flag of the United Nations.

The spokesman said Mr 'Arafat had asked Mr Karami in his message: "If we withdraw our forces from the front towards the port, who will replace them, and when our forces are in the port of Tripoli who will look out for their security, the same going for when they actually board the ships."

'Arafat To Visit UN, Senegal After Leaving Tripoli

JN020748 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] After leaving Tripoli, Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat will visit the United Nations and Senegal. This was announced by Ibrahim as-Sus, PLO representative in Senegal, in the wake of his meeting with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

As-Sus informed the Senegalese president about 'Arafat's intention to visit Senegal to express his thanks to a country which has offered great and effective support for the Palestinian cause. As-Sus also briefed the Senegalese president on the current situation within the Palestinian resistance in light of the Syrian-Libyan aggression. As-Sus told Diouf that the dissident movement within the PLO is not commensurate with the number of the dissidents, who are not more than several hundred, and that the dissident movement would not have resulted in military confrontation had it not been for Syria and Libya.

As-Sus also conveyed 'Arafat's wish to have the eight-member nonaligned committee, of which Senegal is a member, visit the battlefield in Tripoli and not only the Palestinian refugee camps.

UAE Paper Reports Capture of 'Dissident Elements'

GF021130 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 2 Dec 83 p 1

[Exclusive report from Tripoli]

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat escaped an attempt to liquidate him yesterday and thus end his leadership of the Palestinian revolution. Five bands of "dissidents" infiltrated the sparsely populated area of Al-Mina and dug in.

The Islamic Unification Movement immediately issued a statement to all its members, saying that attackers had arrived in the Al-Mina area and took up positions and that their number was unknown. A security source later said that 25 members of the "dissident" elements in Fatah and the PFLP-GC were captured.

It is worth noting that Yasir 'Arafat announced 5 days ago that he had discovered a plot to liquidate the Palestinian Leadership.

'Arafat Official Optimistic on Cease-Fire

JN011259 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Dec 83 pp 1, 21

[Nabil 'Amr dispatch]

[Text] A Palestinian official in Tripoli yesterday expressed optimism over the continuation of the cease-fire agreement between the warring parties in northern Lebanon and over the success of the Tripoli Coordination Committee in arranging the status of the Palestinian fighters and their withdrawal to the nearby camps of Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi.

In a telephone conversation between *AD-DUSTUR* and the Palestinian official at the headquarters of Yasir 'Arafat in Tripoli, the official said that some Arab officers are expected in Tripoli on a temporary mission to supervise the cease-fire until a solution is attained in the Palestinian arena. Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is expected to leave northern Lebanon for his main headquarters in Tunis. He is also expected to invite the PLO Executive Committee to a meeting that will be followed by a meeting of the PLO Central Council and another by the PNC.

The official explained that although there are some who oppose the arrival of Arab military observers, certain negotiations are underway in this respect in addition to current talks on bringing in forces from the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine to implement a disengagement of the fighters in the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi refugee camps. All Palestinian factions and organizations insist on not leaving these camps because that would mean moving away from the principal arena of struggle against the Zionist enemy.

As to whether there is any intention of holding a dialogue among the Palestinian factions in northern Lebanon, the official said that the current cease-fire arranged by Saudi Arabia and Syria calls for a resumption of democratic dialogue to settle the dispute among the Palestinians. The question is to what extent a dialogue can succeed in view of the blood that has been shed, the martyrs who have fallen, and those that were wounded as a result of the onslaught against the positions of the Palestinian revolution in northern Lebanon. In spite of all this, he added, Fatah, which is the backbone of the PLO and is accustomed to shouldering heavy burdens to safeguard the Palestinian gun, will not reject a democratic dialogue within Fatah's and the PLO's legitimate framework under the slogan of protecting Palestinian national decisionmaking and rejecting any subservience, tutelage, or containment.

The official added that the proposals submitted by Fatah Central Committee member Brother Khalid al-Hasan to the dissidents through Syrian channels during his visit to Damascus remain the way the inter-Palestinian crisis can be solved. However, the issue is not, as is being said, a dispute among Palestinians. It is a Palestinian-Syrian crisis in which some Palestinians have agreed to be a front for the dispute between the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, and Syria, which seeks to impose tutelage over the PLO and Palestinian decisionmaking after the Palestinian revolution had heroically stood fast in Beirut while Damascus had relinquished all of its pan-Arab responsibilities.

On what is being said about possible mediation by Saudi Arabia, assisted by other Arab countries, to achieve a Palestinian-Syrian reconciliation, the Palestinian official said that he had heard such talk but that nothing official had taken place. He added: The PLO has a just cause to defend. It always seeks to improve its relations with all of the Arab countries, as the Palestinian cause cannot be removed from its Arab context. The Palestinian people, represented by their legitimate command, however, are the ones who are qualified to make decisions concerning their political, military, economic, and social future. He added: If some Arab countries wish to support the Palestinian people's struggle, they must not ask the Palestinians to adopt their policies and plans. On the contrary, these countries must help the Palestinian people implement their policy and plans because they know their own interests better than anyone else.

The Palestinian official ruled out the departure of any Palestinian fighter from northern Lebanon. One of the objectives of the Palestinian people's struggle is to operate more and more from the struggle arena with the Zionist enemy.

Baghdad PLO Updates Situation in N. Lebanon

JN011712 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Clashes erupted in northern Lebanon yesterday after the Syrian forces violated the cease-fire agreement. The Syrian regime's forces, which are besieging the city of Tripoli, launched artillery and rocket attacks on some areas of the city. The shelling, which was centered on Al-Mina' and At-Tabbanah, killed or wounded some citizens.

It is to be noted that the Syrian *ATH-THAWRAH* newspaper, the regime's official organ, threatened in its editorial yesterday to explode the situation when it hinted at using what it termed Syria's long arm and strong fist against the Palestinian revolution.

Our radio correspondent in Tripoli has learned that Rashid Karami, chairman of Tripoli's Higher Coordination Committee, did not submit any proposals regarding implementation of the Syrian-Saudi agreement on the events in northern Lebanon.

Palestinian Command Gives Casualty Figures

NC010928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The Palestinian command in the mountain has submitted a report to the command's main headquarters in Shtawrah on the number of persons killed during the artillery exchanges in the mountain. The report says that the PFLP suffered two killed and two wounded, the Struggle Front suffered one killed and two wounded, the Liberation Army suffered two killed, and As-Sa'iqah suffered one killed.

Palestinian Fighters To Leave Algeria

GF011756 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 30 Nov 83 p 1

[*AL-ANBA'* correspondent Rubhi al-Asmar dispatch from Algeria]

[Excerpts] The 1,105 Palestinian detainees recently released by the Israeli occupationist authorities beginning this morning will leave the Algerian (El Khurbah) Camp for places designated by their Palestinian organizations.

Regarding the distribution of the released Palestinian fighters, it has been tentatively decided to transfer the Fatah fighters to (Tibsah) Camp, which is near the Tunisian border. Another group will leave for Tunis. Fighters of the Popular and Democratic Fronts will leave for Aden and Lebanon, while fighters of the Palestine Liberation Front will go to (Tibsah), the Arab Liberation Front to Baghdad, and the Struggle Front and General Command to Libya, although it did not reply officially. The As-Sa'iqah detainees will leave for Syria and the Liberation Army detainees for Tunis.

The fighters will leave by Algerian passports valid for one trip. Algeria has also expressed its readiness, within the framework of its support for the PLO's legitimacy, to accept their departure by

cards issued by the PLO for one trip and signed by the director of the PLO office in Algeria.

Turbul VOPR: 'Arafat Reinforcing Positions

NC010850 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 0400 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] 'Arafat continues to implement his suspect role of sabotaging the components of the Palestinian people's steadfastness. Within this context, 'Arafat and his aides continue to obstruct implementation of the Damascus agreement by giving strange interpretations to the provisions of the agreement according to their whims.

An official spokesman for the uprising movement stated that the uprising command has briefed the Higher Coordination Committee on the schemes being drawn up by 'Arafat and his aides in the north. The Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, cites the spokesman as saying that 'Arafat has reinforced his positions in Tripoli with fresh hardware and fighters.

Concluding his statement, the spokesman affirmed that the outbreak of sedition in Tripoli has been generated by 'Arafat's refusal to heed the proposals presented by the Coordination Committee. 'Arafat's rejection is part of his leadership's disregard of the fate of the Palestinian and Lebanese national action and of the interests of the Lebanese masses in Tripoli.

VOPR Cites Report on Assassination Squads

NC011634 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1445 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Following his military defeat and the bankruptcy of his rightist course, reports from Tripoli indicate that 'Arafat has formed special squads to assassinate the leaders of the uprising. These squads, comprising 350 men handpicked by Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], have been sent to a number of European countries, including Greece and Cyprus.

This regrettable course by 'Arafat will not intimidate the uprising movement but, on the contrary, it will increase its determination to adhere to its national course.

Dissidents, Various Lebanese Leaders Interviewed

LD020129 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1940 GMT 1 Dec 83

[From the "Panorama" program; Alajos Chrudinak film report from Lebanon, no date given; interviewees speak in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Excerpts] [Chrudinak] We met Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], the military commander of the rebel Fatah forces, in the Palestinian refugee camp of Nahr al-Barid near Tripoli.

[Muragha] Now that the fighting between us will shortly end in the Lebanese field of operations, I think the time has come for us at last to convene the congress of the Fatah movement.

[Chrudinak] Where, in Damascus?

[Muragha] In Damascus or Lebanon, anyplace it suits us.

[Chrudinak] So do you reject that the congress should convene in Tunis, for example?

[Muragha] Naturally. We would like the congress to be held here on the field of operations, where we clash daily with the enemy. We do not want to go as far as Tunis or Sudan. We would like to hold the congress on the field of operations so that the participants will be influenced by developments on the battlefield.

[Chrudinak] In Europe, and in Hungary, many people justifiably ask: How is it possible that at a time when the Israeli occupiers are here and when the U.S. artillery — and again this morning — heavily shell the Ash-Shuf mountain region, the Palestinians fight against and murder one another, here in Tripoli, for example, and in the refugee camps near Tripoli? What can you answer to this?

[Muragha] This is natural. But we did not start the fighting. It was Yasir 'Arafat who first opened fire on us. From the first moment the uprising demanded a democratic dialogue. We proposed that the congress should decide the affair. However, since he pursues a policy opposed to the national objectives of our revolution, Yasir 'Arafat did not want to ask the opinion of the congress. He rejected political dialogue and started the dialogue of arms. He opened fire on us.

[Chrudinak] In Damascus one also hears accusations against 'Arafat that he is the agent of the U.S. CIA. Mustafa Talas, the Syrian defense minister, said this about 'Arafat. Do you credit such statements? For it is no longer just a question of his having committed errors but that he is also an agent.

[Muragha] I also heard this statement by the Syrian defense minister, in which he said that he has reliable information about this. I have no proof of this. But I think that Yasir 'Arafat's separate policy on the Palestinian issue in the last resort serves U.S. plans.

[Chrudinak] In Damascus discussions were still in progress on the settlement of the Tripoli crisis when we met Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], the rebels' political leader. If Yasir 'Arafat leaves Tripoli, it seems probable that he will go to Jordan, where even without you he will be able to continue his policy.

[Salih] 'Arafat is a free man. He will go where he wants. But if he goes to Jordan, he will not be able to represent the Palestinian people any more.

[Chrudinak] If this is your opinion, then the rift within the PLO seems inevitable.

[Salih] There will not be two organizations here, and there will not be two movements within Fatah either. The PLO will remain a united movement in the future. Those who infringe the basic principles of the PLO and Fatah must leave the PLO.

[Chrudinak] I do not think it impossible that the Palestinian parliament will reelect 'Arafat or that 'Arafat will change his policy.

[Salih] No, this is simply impossible. He has committed errors that exclude the possibility of his being the leader of the Palestinian movement.

[Chrudinak] In your opinion does this mean that he has lost politically?

[Salih] We will call him to account for everything. We will not tolerate that in the Fatah movement everything will stay as it was, as if nothing had happened. We will call to account all those who have left the Palestinian people in the lurch, just as we will also call those to account who have concluded agreements that harm the Palestinian people and the Palestinian movement.

[Chrudinak] In your opinion has 'Arafat already concluded an agreement with Jordan?

[Salih] Yes.

[Chrudinak] And he has already signed it?

[Salih] Yes.

[Chrudinak] As far as I know, he has not signed it, but he has taken the matter to the highest Palestinian leadership, which has rejected it.

[Salih] We know very well what he has done. This is shown by his present actions and also by what he is doing in Tripoli.

[Chrudinak] So in your opinion this means that if the Palestinian parliament assembles then it will elect a new chairman to lead the PLO?

[Salih] This is the affair of the PNC. If our parliament is convened, it will debate the whole Palestinian internal conflict.

[Chrudinak] I have heard from other Palestinian organizations and also from many Palestinians that you also are chairman-elect of the PLO.

[Salih] This is the first I have heard of it. I would like this question to come before the Palestinian parliament. Let it decide who the leader should be and what the leadership should be like. It will have to determine Palestinian policy. We, on the other hand, will demand that 'Arafat be called to account.

[Chrudinak] 'Arafat says that the Syrians have you in their Others say Syria could change its stance by agreeing with the United States, and then it would be all over for the Palestinian movement. What is your opinion?

[Salih] 'Arafat knows very well, because he knows us well. But the Palestinian people also well know that it was precisely we who protected the movement from coming to an end. The Palestinian movement cannot simply be put into someone's pocket. While there exist Palestinian weapons to fight in the frontline against Israel, no one can take over this movement; quite the contrary. We feel gratitude and respect for Syria because it supports our revolution in the struggle against our enemies. The revolution can be annihilated only if it is robbed of its weapons, if they take away our weapons. If the revolution fails, then there will no longer be a Palestinian revolution.

[Chrudinak] But if it should happen after all that an agreement is reached among Syria, Amin al-Jumayyil, and the United States, then what will happen to you?

[Salih] This would mean that Syria would have departed from the patriotic direction and accepted the U.S. settlement in the Middle East. But this is inconceivable. We trust that Syria will not depart from the patriotic direction and, no matter what pressure is applied, Syria will continue to oppose the U.S. settlement.

[Chrudinak] But let us listen also to the other side — Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], 'Arafat's deputy, the leader of Palestinian internal security, and member of the PLO Executive Committee. I have always known him to be the most outspoken, most open Palestinian politican. Why is there no settlement yet of the conflict within Fatah, which has lasted for 6 months, while the Syrian-Palestinian conflict started over 10 years ago? Why do not they put a stop to the animosities?

[Khalaf] Look, we evaluate things differently from Syria, especially on matters of detail. But this would not matter on its own, because if we agree on the strategic issues, then we can have differences of views on the tactical issues. 'Arafat says that the argument is really not among the Palestinians, that the conflict is not caused by the contradictions within Fatah, but, as he says, it is the result of outside agitation. He accuses Syria and Libya of this. In the Arab world, unfortunately, differences of views, conflicts, are frequent. The trouble with virtually all of us here is that frequently we are more prejudiced than we should be. Our excessive subjectivity often raises political storms. If we hear a few kind words then our hearts open up and we unfold, but because of a few unpleasant remarks, extremely grave political conflicts can break out, even if it is only a question of mere trifles, which we exaggerate ourselves with our excessive subjectivism. For this reason I do not think that the current conflict could lead to a rift — unless, of course, Syria wants to break away.

[Chrudinak] And is that what they want?

[Khalaf] It would not be in their interest. If the Palestinian movement suffers a blow, then Syria will be the next victim, and the converse is also true.

[Chrudinak] What are the most basic contradictions among you?

[Khalaf] We agree with the breakaway faction that an organizational reform must be carreid out, that those soldiers who committed an offense in the Lebanese war must be punished, but we reject the rebels' political demands. The rebels, for example, reject the Fes resolutions, the Soviet peace plan, a state federation to be created with Jordan, whereas over 1 million Palestinians live in Jordan. Over half of Jordan's inhabitants are Palestinians. The rebels also reject and attack the fact that we

are conducting a dialogue with the democratic and progressive Israeli forces. In their opinion everyone in Israel is a Zionist. This is simply a lie that has nothing to do with reality.

[Chrudinak] Virtually the same accusations are made on both sides.

[Khalaf] These accusations are false, both on the side of Syria and 'Arafat. In Damascus they say that 'Arafat is a traitor. But what has he betrayed and to whom? To the Americans or to Israel? These press reports are unfounded, since the Syrian regime and President Hafiz al-Asad also know well that 'Arafat is not a traitor. But those who accuse Syria of betraying the Palestinian cause to America are likewise irresponsible. We must recognize soberly and objectively that the Palestinian movement and Syria make mistakes. But we must stop these mistakes. We must meet each other, we must hold a dialogue, we must debate for hundreds and hundreds of hours around the table but not on the battlefield. We have to agree.

[Chrudinak] Rashid Karami, former Lebanese prime minister, who is the head of the Coordination Committee in charge of the implementation, speaks about the plan.

You have proposed that 'Arafat leave Tripoli. What has 'Arafat responded? After all, he would like to stay.

[Karami] I have come out with a comprehensive proposal for a settlement. I have not demanded that 'Arafat and his followers leave Tripoli because we have had enough of them. To the contrary, I have demanded as a response from the Palestinian forces opposing him that they should withdraw to where they came from.

[Chrudinak] Yoou stated your proposal to 'Arafat on the telephone. How did he react? Did he appear to be willing?

[Karami] The truth is that I called 'Arafat on the telephone. I told him my fears about the dangers threatening Tripoli, and how this crisis could be resolved. I believe I also hinted that if he leaves Tripoli, perhaps he could serve the cause of his Palestinian people better and more usefully. 'Arafat showed readiness to leave, saying that he entrusts the issue to my judgment. It is my conviction that this plan means a way out of the present fraticidal war, because it spares the Palestinians from further pointless and unnecessary bloodshed and from further sacrifices, as it also wards off the dangers threatening Tripoli and its inhabitants.

[Chrudinak] The solution of either the Lebanese or the Palestinian issue can hardly be imagined without the participation of Damascus. I spoke about these issues with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian minister of foreign affairs, who now is the director of Syria's foreign policy because of the unexpected illness of President al-Asad.

Can things be settled with 'Arafat, or has he been written off politically?

[Khaddam] This issue concerns our Palestinian brothers. However, Yasir 'Arafat has so far resolved that he will continue his policy. It is for precisely this reason that he went to Tripoli.

Yes. Otherwise, why would he have done this? With this, 'Arafat addressed a message to the United States, as if he had said this: Do you see that I belong to your circle? I do not go along with the patriotic and progressive forces, and I am ready to cooperate with you. For precisely this reason, I am attempting now to eliminate the patriotic and progressive Palestinian and Lebanese forces, so that I can continue the path started on the side of King Husayn. This is how 'Arafat's message sounded.

[Chrudinak] Do you consider it conceivable that the United States may carry out a large-scale military operation in Lebanon and that it is making use of the Palestinian conflict, that 'Arafat is fighting in Tripoli, or that he possibly is forced to leave, or that he is killed? I am thinking of what happened in Grenada. There, the killing of Prime Minister Bishop was alluded to as a pretext of invasion.

[Khaddam] Syria is not Genada. Aggression against Syria never will be an easy weekend adventure, because whomever attacks Syria can expect running into hard resistance. For this reason, no one can hope that the United States can do in the Middle East what it did in Grenada.

[Chrudinak] You met Amin al-Jumayyil after President al-Asad was taken ill. Did you manage to reach agreement with him? During his time as president, Amin al-Jumayyil said to me that officially he has not yet asked Syria to leave Lebanon. Did he ask this of you now?

[Khaddam] We did not speak about this topic.

[Chrudinak] Not a word?

[Khaddam] No. We did not discuss this topic.

[Chrudinak] According to you, under what kind of conditions, after the fulfillment of what kind of conditions would Syria be willing to withdraw from Lebanon?

[Khaddam] First, the Israeli troops must leave Lebanon without any condition and proviso. In accordance with this, the agreement which the United States and Israel forced on Lebanon must be nullified. Second, insofar as these conditions are fulfilled, we are ready to start negotiations with the Lebanese Government on the withdrawal of Syrian troops. We are willing to withdraw from Lebanon, in a manner similar to our entry, under the same circumstances and conditions.

[Chrudinak] In the recent past, you conducted important talks with Gromyko. Have you managed to achieve further agreement on cooperation between the two countries and on the coordination of political measures?

[Khaddam] My discussions with Foreign Minister Gromyko constitute part of regular consultation between the two countries, as well as of the stipulations of the friendship and cooperation treaty concluded by us. Our opinions regarding all of the issues discussed were identical.

[Chrudinak] Do you consider it probable that a war will break out in the Middle East, that a direct clash might take place between the Soviet Union and the United States?

[Khaddam] The Soviet Union has certain obligations. The Soviet Union has asserted several times that it meets its obligations vis-a-vis the friendly peoples, and we are certain of this. Naturally, we never have sought a Soviet-American confrontation in the Middle East or anywhere in the world, because such a conflict would not serve the cause of peace and security anywhere in the world.

[Chrudinak] Moshe Levi, chief of staff of the Israeli army, recently said — and the Israeli press also wrote this — that at your most recent talks in Moscow, you agreed with Foreign Minister Gromyko that the Soviet military advisers would be withdrawn from Syria. What do you say to this?

[Khaddam] These are Israeli lies. This issue was not discussed by us even tangentially.

[Chrudinak] So the Soviet specialists will stay?

[Khaddam] Yes, they will stay.

[Chrudinak] Mr Foreign Minister, you have held talks several times with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and with McFarlane, President Reagan's present national security adviser. In your view, what do the Americans want in Lebanon? What is the United States seeking? What was said about this to you?

[Khaddam] The United States would like to carry out the agreement which the Americans and the Israelis forced on Lebanon. We reject this, for this reason, we have not managed to agree with the Americans on this issue thus far.

[Chrudinak] You stated recently that the United States is not fulfilling its previously accepted obligations. What did you want to say about this, Mr Minister?

[Khaddam] I do not understand the question.

[Chrudinak] You said in the recent past that the United States is not keeping the obligations previously undertaken by it. By the way, President al-Asad also said this. So what were you thinking of when you stated that the United States does not keep its promise?

[Khaddam] In the time of the Lebanese war, the United States undertook a commitment that Israel would withdraw...

[Chrudinak] Unconditionally.

[khaddam] Would withdraw completely, without conditions, from Lebanon. But this promise was not kept.

[Chrudinak] Why not? When you ask Shultz or McFarlane why they do not keep their promise, what can they say about this?

[Khaddam] Ask them. But it is a fact; the United States has not fulfilled its promise.

[Chrudinak] We are heading for 'Isam Khuri, minister of national defense, the head of the government Army. Fortunately, our chauffeur has learned how to slalom. Thus, we took the first barrier with success. We could get to the barricaded minister via eight control points. In Lebanon, where at the moment four wars are raging, only a civilian can fill the post of minister of national defense. At the same time, 'Isam Khuri is also minister of national education.

Mr Defense Minister, do you believe a war could break out between the United States and the Soviet Union, Israel, and Syria, on Lebanese territory?

[Khuri] I am minister of national defense, not minter of war.

[Chrudinak] The National Salvation Front accuses you of the Lebanese Army representing only one single party, the Phalange Party, as, for example, in Suq al-Gharb.

[Khuri] First, the battle in Suq al-Gharb, about which you speak, is not taking place between the Druze and the Lebanese Army.

[Chrudinak] Then, between whom?

[Khuri] Walid Junblatt also says that. In my opinion, this is the war of foreigners on Lebanese land, because those who fight in the highlands, who attack the Lebanese Army, do not necessarily belong to the very esteemed Druze denomination. It is possible that some people belong to them, but by no means can a denominational character be given to these atrocities. Those who are fighting in the highlands are not Lebanese citizens.

[Chrudinak] I do not understand why the Army which fights against the Shi'ites and Druze thus far has not even cast an angry glance on the occupying Israeli troops.

[Khuri] Whether or not we are waging a war with Israel is related to Israel and ourselves being linked by a cease-fire agreement. This is why we are not waging a war against Israel.

[Chrudinak] In spite of the cease-fire, Israel has occupied a part of Lebanon.

[Khuri] When Israel invaded Lebanon, it fought against those Palestinians who live in Lebanon.

[Chrudinak] The Palestinians have left already, but the Israelis are still here.

[Khuri] Yes, but the territory where Israel entered unfortunately did not come under the jurisdiction of the Lebanese Government. Unfortunately, the Palestinian and the Arab Deterrent Forces were stationed there. For this reason, it was right militarily that this war should take place between the Israeli troops, as well as the Palestinian and Syrian troops.

[Chrudinak] We are going to an old acquantance, Perre al-Jumayyil, chairman of the Phalange Party, father of Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the republic. Pierre al-Jumayyil has continued to play a decisive role in shaping of the country's policy.

[Al-Jumayyil] I can assure you that if it is made possible for us, the Lebanese leaders, to confer for 24 hours among ourselves, we will be able to agree. That is why the first such meeting we had in Geneva was successful.

[Chrudinak] But I heard that particularly your party, the Phalange Party, and the leader of your armed militia, (?Fadi Afram), oppose the Geneva decisions.

[Al-Jumayyil] On the contrary. There is no question of that.

[Chrudinak] Is it not true?

[Al-Jumayyil] Of course it is not true. I am very surprised that you ask me such things. The strength of the Phalangists lies in their discipline. This applies both to the Phalange Party and the Phalangist troops. There is discipline among us. Do you understand? I am surprised that you...

[Chrudinak] So there have been no such opinions?

[Al-Jumayyil] Never. Quite the opposite. One cannot say such things. This means that you know neither the Phalangists nor the Phalange troops. The strength of the Phalangists for 46 years now — we are now in the 47th year — has always been discipline.

[Chrudinak] This morning I spoke to Nabih Birri, leader of the Shi'ite Amal Movement, who said that he would support the Lebanese Army only if it took a stand against your Phalangist militia in just the same way as the Army is now fighting against the progressive Nationalist Movement's armed forces. In your opinion, why do the Army and government not treat the armed militia in the same way?

[Al-Jumayyil] I am very surprised that you say things like this.

[Chrudinak] I was told this by Nabih Birri himself.

[Al-Jumayyil] I am also surprised that Nabih Birri told you such things, because it is clear that it is not the Lebanese who are fighting each other. The fight going on here is between the Lebanese and foreign invaders. You speak about an army. This is the first time we can say that the Lebanese Army is really a Lebanese army.

[Chrudinak] But Walid Junblatt told me that many Druze and Shi'ite soldiers left the Lebanese Army because it is fighting against the Shi'ites and Druze.

[Al-Jumayyil] That is a downright lie.

[Chrudinak] And yet very many people left the Army for this reason.

[Al-Jumayyil] Yes, there were some who left, went away, because the Army still does not stand on its feet as it should. But this is the first time we have had an Army.

[Chrudinak] According to this, Lebanon needs a fighting big power.

[Al-Jumayyil] Lebanon needs help.

[Chrudinak] In your opinion, U.S. help first and foremost?

[Al-Jumayyil] Yes, the United States.

[Chrudinak] But the United States does not do anything.

[Al-Jumayyil] We need the United States, France, Italy, Great Britain, and the entire U.S. 6th Fleet. We need them so that we can be liberated. That is why they came here, so that we can be libertaed.

[Chrudinak] But it seems that the United States did not come here to get rid of Israel but to bomb the Druze.

[Al-Jumayyil] Not to bomb the Druze. They did not fight against the Druze.

[Chrudinak] But Walid Junblatt's troops were shelled from the U.S. ships.

[Al-Jumayyil] I am not interested in what Junblatt is telling you. I can tell you that the war is not between us and the Druze, but between us, Lebanese, and the foreign invaders.

[Chrudinak] Are you counting on the United States to carry out some sort of punitive military action?

[Al-Jumayyil] It is possible because, as I have already told you, the war here is between the Soviet Union and the United States. You should not be surprised if the United States carries out such an action from outside.

[Chrudinak] And then will Israel also attack Syria?

[Al-Jumayyil] It is possible, but I cannot — how shall I say — answer this because I do not have the necessary information for this. If I had to give you information about this, then I would have to be certain about the matter. But I do not like to talk through my hat.

[Chrudinak] Perhaps nobody knows U.S.-Lebanese relations as well as the veretran right-wing politician, the six-times former prime minister, Sa'ib Salam. Salam supports President al-Jumayyil, he voted for the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, and is a member of the right-wing Christian and Muslim potentates' close circle. A month and a half ago, he talked with Reagan about Lebanon's future.

You also signed the agreement about which representatives of the opposition — I am thinking about the National Salvation Front — are saying that this is the agreement that swept Lebanon into such a terrible situation. Why did you sign that agreement?

[Salam] We ended up in a situation in which Israel crushed us underfoot; it broke us militarily. We never had a military force that could oppose Israel. We would like to remove it from here, but we do not have the strength to remove it in any other way than by diplomatic means — what is more, with the help of those

who can exert pressure on Israel. And this is the United States. Therefore, we had to sign this agreement. You also know that Syria and President al-Asad called this agreement an agreement of capitulation.

[Chrudinak] Yes.

[Salam] And he is right, because this is really an agreement of capitulation, which is usually only signed by the victors and the vanquished. Therefore, a victor and a vanquished. What is more, a vanquished whose territory has been invaded.

[Chrudinak] But how can it be that in the course of the parliament debate you did not notice that things would in the end lead to this, that the agreement could not be implemented?

[Salam] No, then we did not feel that. On the contrary, we were hopeful. Had it not been so, then we would not have accepted the agreement. We accepted it because we had hopes for it. Then it turned out that we were wrong.

[Chrudinak] The National Salvation Front says that only one party, the Phalange Party, rules in the country. The Phalange Party is now all powerful. This could easily lead to a dictatorship.

[Salam] This party's rule has existed for a long time now. It is fascist. In the strictest sense of the word, it is a fascist party. It came into being 46 years ago and it has continually strengthened as a fascist party. It extended its power over the state. Today, however, I am convinced that (?the republicans) were formerly members of this party — but not today.

[Chrudinak] They also say that President Amin al-Jumayyil is helpless and weak, that he cannot but the Phalange Party out of the way and is even less able to put (?Fadi Afram's) militia out of the way.

[Salam] Yes. Fadi Afram's militia. But it is not he personally who is weak. He has a weak state, a disarranged state with a disarranged Army. Since he took over office, he has been trying to develop the Army and I support him in that we should have an army which...

[Chrudinak] Why? Is there no cooperation between the Army and the Phalangists?

[Salam] There is not.

[Chrudinak] The National Salvation Front says there is.

[Salam] All right, there is cooperation. Yes, well, there is some.

[Chrudinak] Since many American soldiers have died here in Beirut, in your opinion can it be expected that Wasington will have recourse to punitive actions such as France's and Israel's? Or perhaps...

[Salam] Who knows? We do not like such punitive actions. But who can say which way U.S. policy is going? We hope it will exert pressure on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon. When Lebanon has become strong, the Lebanese Army then will be capable of ruling over these forces. The United States, however, is only leading us into deterioration.

[Chrudinak] In spite of this President Amin al-Jumayyil has not lost confidence in the United States?

[Salam] No.

[Chrudinak] He relies on it completely.

[Salam] I fully support him in this. I have not lost all my confidence in the United States either, but let us be honest. It is not affection or love or adoration that brings us to the United States. In the last 35 years, the United States has only caused us harm. But against Israel, we can only expect support from the United States. There is no one else in the world who can exert pressure on Israel, only the United States.

[Chrudinak] However, the United States does not exert pressure on Israel because there will be elections next year.

[Salam] Well, that is just it. That is the question of questions.

[Chrudinak] Israel, on the other hand, says that...

[Salam] No, today even America is aware that its interests are in danger everywhere in the world, especially in the Middle East.

[Chrudinak] If a new government is formed, whereby Shafiq al-Wazzan will in the future not be the prime minister...

[Salam] He is now on the way to resigning.

[Chrudinak] Would you accept the post of prime minister?

[Salam] Not me. I no longer wish to be the prime minister of my country. For every man it is glory if he can be prime minister. I have been prime minister many times, six times in the last 30 years. Today, however, I feel — and I do not say this out of fear or pompousness — that in the situation I am now in, I am much better able to serve my country that if I were in the government.

[Chrudinak] Rashid Karami told me the same thing word for word: that he can serve the country better outside the government.

[Salam] He, however, is aspiring to this. We Muslims say that we can declare three times that we will get divorced from someone. We can say it once, we can say it twice, but if we say the word for the third time, then there is no going back. I have said the word three times.

Baghdad Voice of PLO on U.S.-Israeli Agreement

JN011953 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1604 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers, U.S. strategy for absolute hegemony over our Arab region is daily being consolidated to such an extent that

within the context of this strategy the region will become a tool for implementing the current U.S. policy on what it terms U.S. national interests. This interest now covers the world at large, so that there is no region in the world that the United States does not consider as having a direct relation to what it terms its national interest.

If we consider this terminology, we find that it merely means absolute hegemony over the destinies of nations and various regions so that the real national interests of nations in terms of their territories, national resources, and the security and safety of their peoples are devoted to serving U.S. interests. They can be canceled and abolished whenever and wherever they contradict U.S. views and schemes regarding its intereests and the interests of its numerous agents scattered in all corners of the world.

The recent U.S.-Israeli agreement between Reagan and Shamir is the greatest proof. Under the pretext of what the agreement termed Soviet involvement in the region, the biggest deal in recent history is concluded between a giant country and an agent one. Through this deal, Israel will obtain massive economic aid to rescue it from its economic crisis in return for Israel's implementation of all that U.S. objectives, policies, and measures dictate both inside and outside the Arab region.

Our long experience with U.S. policy unquestionably confirms that the United States is not concerned with achieving a comprehensive settlement in the region on the basis of attaining the national rights of the Palestinian people. Had this settlement been achieved on this basis, it would have solved the problems that were created by the Palestinian issue and would have achieved stability and security for the region's peoples. Since we have first known it, U.S. policy has been based on dividing the problem, creating secondary problems from it, and then becoming preoccupied with solving the secondary problems. This enables the United States to continue its control of the entire region, whether through direct interference in the region's policy or by giving the Zionist country a free hand here and there.

This is how the Israeli invasion of Lebanon was done in order to achieve a common Israeli-U.S. objective — destroying the PLO so that the invasion and its objectives would result in creating the Lebanese crisis, and so that the principal issue, the Palestine question, would be forgotten and the region would become preoccupied with a secondary issue. If we go back to the 1981 U.S.-Isrseli strategic agreement and compare it with the new agreement, we find that the two have identical objectives — solving a secondary problem that is removed from the principal issue, the Palestinian issue. The first U.S.-Israeli strategic agreement in 1981 paved the way for Israel's withdrawal from Sinai and its attack on the PLO in Lebanon. However, the new agreement, which militarily is merely a continuation of the first agreement based on the same pretext of confronting the Soviets, clearly has new political objectives that are essentially no different from the previous agreement.

Thus, do we now expect an Israeli withdrawal from a few meters in the Golan Heights, particularly since the Syrian regime has proved its good intention by attempting to divide the PLO and by announcing what it termed modifications — which undoubtedly will be slight — to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and since the United States has acknowledged the regime's vital interests in Lebanon? Available information asserts that the new U.S.-Israeli agreement will not deviate from this framework, particularly since no U.S. pressure will be exerted on Israel to accept, at the very least and through a U.S. viewpoint, the Reagan plan. This means — and even confirms — that the new U.S.-Israeli agreement has results in favor of and not against Syria, as some people might indicate.

It is clear that the U.S.-Israeli agreement has a definite objective — excluding the Palestinian issue and giving Israel a free hand in the occupied Palestinian territories in return for achieving a settlement between Israel and the Syrian regime within the framework of the planned U.S. policy for Lebanon. The problem with the U.S. policy is its insistence on ignoring the reality of interactions in our Arab region — the fact that any solution that does not directly deal with the Palestinian issue and with achieving all of the Palestinian people's rights of return, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil will only result in new explosions which ultimately will either destroy all U.S. strategic interests in the region or push the world toward a world war the grave consequences of which no one can predict. This will affect everyone, including Israel and the United States.

PRC Envoy to Tunisia Supports 'Arafat

LD012229 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee, has received the PRC ambassador to Tunisia at PLO Political Department headquarters in Tunis. The two discussed the current Palestinian situation, particularly the latest developments in northern Lebanon. WAFA reports that the Chinese diplomat renewed the firm, lasting, principled, and determined support of his country, government and people, for the just legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people for their self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on national soil led by their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, headed by Brother Yasir 'Arafat.

Al-Wazir Contacts Palestinians in Jordan

JN011211 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Dec 83 p 24

[Text] Amman — Khalid al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, yesterday telephoned Palestinian officials in Jordan from Tripoli, northern Lebanon, and stressed that the morale of the Palestinian forces' in northern Lebanon is high and that there is no cause for anxiety over their situation.

Al-Wazir told Palestinian circles in Jordan that Rashid Karami had not submitted his proposals to the Palestinian revolution and that there seem to be some differences.

Al-Wazir also enquired about the situation of the Palestinian circles in Jordan and was reassured that everything in the Jordanian arena is at its best.

PLO Official Meets USSR Envoy in Tunis

LD012234 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Brother Abu Ja'far [Abu Hijlah Sayyid 'Abd al-Latif], director of the PLO Political Department's office headquarters, has met with the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis. WAFA said that the meeting dealt with current developments in the Palestinian issue and ways to develop relations between the PLO and the USSR.

Abu Ja'far also met with the GDR, DPRK, Romanian, Polish, and Czechoslovak ambassadors to Tunisia, who handed him messages from the leaders of their countries to Brother Yasir 'Arafat on the occasion of the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent Returns From Morocco

GF020638 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Manama, 2 Dec (WAKH) — Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, returned to Manama last night after a visit to Morocco which lasted several days.

KUWAIT

Paper Views U.S.-Israeli Cooperation

GF011634 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 30 Nov 83 pp 1, 25

[Editorial: "Did You Understand the Talks at the White House?"]

[Excerpt] The official White House spokesman, while talking about the talks the U.S. President had with the prime minister of the Israeli enemy, said that President Reagan told his dear guest "that there is no contradiction between strong military cooperation and amelioration of U.S. relations with moderate Arab countries."

This was a vivid example of U.S. views. But how can the U.S. spokesman interpret to us — we Arabs — that we are either moderates or extremists, as they call us in the United States and the West, because how can summer and winter or fire and water come together? In other words, how could the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance not be at least an impediment in the process of "amelioration of U.S. relations with moderate Arab countries?" Is the U.S.-Zionist ploy to work continuously in the direction of stirring up and consolidating the elements of schism and infighting among the Arabs or to create doubts in an organized manner in the Arab arena so that no Arab will feel safe from another Arab no matter what titles are given to this or that Arab?

By describing us as moderates, Washington wants us to submit to the Zionist usurpation, to make our fate subject to the U.S.-Israeli coercion and above all the loss of Palestine, Lebanon, and the Golan in addition to what comes next. To clarify the situation — to Washington as well as to others — we say that capitulation will not come about. The essence of the matter is that the Arabs, although some are described as moderates, are not, nor will they ever be, divested of their will and manhood. They may not be so powerful as the United States or have the power which the United States gave to Israel, but they will not fall on their knees even if the occupation were to expand. Yet, expansion of the occupation will proportionally revive the national determination to repulse the occupation or to make its conditions very bitter on land, sea, or air.

Washington may spare much troubles or even disasters if it now realizes what it has to do. It must realize that counting on the Israeli police to coerce the region will ultimately lead to a catastrophic end for it, as it will lose everything.

OMAN

Canadian Prime Minister Begins Visit

GF011400 Doha QNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Muscat, 1 Dec (QNA) — Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau arrived in Muscat today for a 3-day official visit to the Sultanate of Oman within the framework of his current tour of a number of the region's states. Mr Trudeau said upon arrival that he will hold talks with senior officials on means to strengthen bilateral relations in various political and economic fields. He said he will also exchange views on a number of current international issues, the situation in the Gulf region, and developments in the Iraq-Iran war in particular and the situation in the Middle East in general.

Asked about the nature of his plan to reduce international tension, he said: This initiative focuses in the first place on creating the appropriate atmosphere to reduce the current tension between the two superpowers.

Official talks between the Omani and the Canadian sides are scheduled to begin this evening.

Qabus Receives Trudeau

GF011630 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received this afternoon at the Sib al-'Amir Palace Canadian Prime Minister Pierre-Elliott Trudeau, who is currently visiting the country. The meeting was attended by Tuayni ibn Shahab, the sultan's special adviser and governor of the capital, and Yusuf 'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and on the Canadian side by the delegation accompanying Trudeau.

Afterward, his majesty received Interior Minister Badr ibn Su'ud ibn Harib.

Official Talks

GF011930 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] A session of official talks was held at the Al-Ghubrah guest house today between the Omani side, led by Tuayni ibn Shahab, the sultan's special adviser and governor of the capital, and the Canadian side, led by Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, who began a 3-day official visit to the Sultanate today. On the Omani side, the session of talks was attended by Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battash, Foreign Ministry under secretary; Ahmad 'Abdallah Makki, Industry and Commerce Ministry under secretary; Muhammad Rida Musa, Finance Ministry under secretary; Major General Hasan Ihsan Nasib, Defense Ministry under secretary; and Sayf (Faysal Bisharah), head of Europe and [word indistinct] affairs at the Foreign Ministry. On the Canadian side they were attended by the delegation accompanying Mr Trudeau.

In a statement following the session, Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah affirmed that the Omani and Canadian sides discussed bilateral relations, particularly in the commercial and economic fields and means to strengthen them. He said: Regarding political issues, they were discussed during the Canadian prime minister's meeting with His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id today, during which they exchanged views on a number of current international issues, particularly the situation in the Gulf region and developments in the Iraq-Iran war and generally the situation in the Middle East.

Answering a question about the Sultanate's view on the Canadian prime minister's plan to reduce the tension between the two superpowers, the minister of state for foreign affairs said that the Sultanate supports every effort which ultimately reduces the extent of the tension between the nuclear states and ensures the international peace.

Minister Returns From Romania, UK Visits

GF010930 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Muscat, 1 Dec (WAKH) — Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, and the accompanying delegation returned to Muscat this morning following official visits to Romania and Britain. During his visit to Britain, Mr al-'Alawi chaired meetings of the Omani-British technical cooperation committee. He held talks on the Middle East situation with President Nicolae Ceausescu and his foreign minister during his visit to Romania.

PDRY

Chairman Receives Cuban Foreign Minister

GF011944 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today received Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign minister. During the meeting they discussed the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries in addition to a review of the latest developments in the international arena, particularly developments in the Arab region and the Carribbean and issues of common interest.

The brother secretary general expressed his satisfaction with the continuous developments in Yemeni-Cuban relations, which are based on the common goals and principles for which the two friendly parties and peoples in the PDRY and socialist Cuba struggle: the great ideas of scientific socialism and the international proletariat. The brother secretary general also hailed the role played by socialist Cuba in the struggle against international imperialism. He reiterated our country's full solidarity with the struggle of the friendly Cuban people in the confrontation of the plots and the intrigues of the U.S. imperialism and its allies.

Comrade Isidoro Malmierca praised the successes attained by the PDRY in various fields under the leadership of the YSP. He hailed the constant positions of our country in the struggle launched by the Arab and international national liberation movements against imperialism and its international surrogates in defense of liberation, progress, socialism, and peace.

The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister, and Lescaille Estrada, the ambassador of socialist Cuba in Aden.

Soviet Justice Official Holds Talks

GF011412 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Brother Brigadier General 'Ali Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and first deputy prime minister, today received Comrade Aleksandr Sukharev, first deputy justice minister and head of the Soviet-Yemeni friendship association and deputy head of the Soviet-Arab friendship assocation. During this meeting the course of relations between the two friendly countries was reviewed.

Brother Brig Gen 'Ali Nasir 'Antar expressed the appreciation of the party and state in the PDRY for the backing and aid donated by the friendly Soviet Union to our country. He also expressed our party's profound desire to reinforce and strengthen relations with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist bloc as a principled issue in the struggle of our people [words indistinct] where this is a major guarantee to reinforce the procession of the lengthy experience in our country, to make it successful, and to grant it support in the confrontation of all the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary hazzards and plots.

Comrade Aleksandr Sukharev expressed his extreme satisfaction over the achievements and revolutionary changes which our people have attained under the leadership of the Yemeni Socialist Party. He asserted the USSR's constant and principled stances in continuing its sincere support for our country in all fields.

Bulgarian Delegation Completes Visit

GF011752 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] led by Comrade Georgi Petrov, member of the Central Committee and deputy chief of the BCP People's Councils and Mass Organizations Department, left Aden today following a visit to our country that lasted several days. In a statement to ANA, the comrade head of the delegation expressed satisfaction at the results of the meetings and for the positive results attained that serve the cooperation relations between the YSP and BCP.

Upon departure he was seen off by Brother Rajih Salih Naji, alternate member of the Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Central Committee.

SAUDI ARABIA

Bush, Al-Jumayyil, Bandar Meet in Washington

GF020502 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] A tripartite meeting was held in Washington last night between His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Kingdom's ambassador in Washington; George Bush, U.S. vice president; and Amin al-Jumayyil, the Lebanese president, who is currently visiting Washington. During the meeting, they reviewed the Middle East situation, particularly the situation in Lebanon.

After the meeting, the Lebanese president made a statement expressing hope that all non-Lebanese forces will be made to leave Lebanon.

Libya's Jallud Departs for Addis Ababa

LD011001 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0840 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Jidda, 1 Dec (SPA) — Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left Jidda this morning for Addis Ababa after a short visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by the minister of state and member of the cabinet, Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, the Libyan charge d'affaires, and a number of officials.

Interior Ministry on Overstaying Visitors

GF011810 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The Interior Ministry has demanded that all pilgrims, 'umrah ritual performers, and visitors who came to the Kingdom from abroad in order to perform pilgrimage or 'umrah or to visit not stay in the Kingdom and return to their countries as the goal for which they came has ended. The ministry stated that any staying behind in the Kingdom are considered to be violating the laws and instructions. Anyone who stays behind will be subject to arrest, punishment, and obligatory deportation.

The ministry warned all citizens and legal residents in the country not to employ, house, or shelter in any way any individual who stays behind.

King Fahd Congratulates PDRY Chairman

GF011130 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has sent a congratulatory cable to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council in the PDRY, on the occasion of his country's national day. King Fahd expressed, in his own name and on behalf of the people and government of the Kingdom, most sincere congratulations and wishes of good health and happiness to Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and progress and prosperity for the fraternal people of the PDRY.

UAE

Canadian Prime Minister Leaves for Oman

GF011008 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad met with Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau at the Intercontinental Hotel this morning. After the meeting, his highness accompanied the prime minister to the airport from where he and his accompanying delegation left for Muscat following an official 1-day visit to the UAE.

Eritrean Official on Foiling Ethiopian Attacks

GF020754 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1950 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Dec (WAKH) — Mohamed Osman Abu Bakr, representative for the Eritrean Liberation Front [ELF] in the Gulf region, has announced that the ELF's forces have repulsed a 2-day Ethiopian attack in the area of Gash in the western region, checked the attackers' advance, and inflicted losses on them which amounted to 70 killed and wounded soldiers. In a press statement issued in Abu Dhabi today, Abu Bakr said the ELF's forces killed 40 Ethiopian soldiers and wounded 100 others in a major battle which took place between the Ethiopian forces and the Eritrean revolutionaries near the city of Tesseni. He said the revolutionaries destroyed three tanks and captured one armored vehicle, units of medium and small weapons, and transport vehicles loaded with arms and ammunition.

Abu Bakr said Ethiopian activities have increased in the region controlled by Eritrean revolutionaries near the Sudanese border. These activities are related to the tense situation between Ethiopia and Sudan. There is massive concentration of Ethiopian troops on Sudan's eastern border.

The ELF representative in the Gulf region praised UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan's support for the Eritrean revolution. His highness is always calling for unity among the Eritrean revolution's factions to achieve victory and offers aid to them without imposing any conditions on them, he said.

Briefs

GNP Figures — Abu Dhabi, 26 Nov (WAKH) — The UAE's gross national product for 1981 reached 119.771 billion dirhams, an increase of 5.301 billion dirhams or 7.45 percent over last year's. Crude oil contributed 60.289 billion dirhams or 7.57 percent while other sectors contributed 50.482 billion dirhams, a 3.42 percent increase. A statistical report issued by the Ministry of Planning today indicated that Abu Dhabi amirate's share in the total GNP was 80.264 billion dirhams or 67.9 percent. The Dubai amirate's share was 28.271 billion dirhams or 23.6 percent. Ash-Shariqah amirate's share was 5.430 billion dirhams or 4.5 percent. R'as al-Khaymah's share was 2.621 billion dirhams or 2.2 percent. 'Ajman amirate's share was 907 million dirhams or 0.8 percent. Umm al-Qaywayn's share was 394 million dirhams or 0.3 percent. [Text] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1025 GMT 26 Nov 83 GF]

Staff Chief Receives Sudanese — Abu Dhabi, 29 Nov (WAM) — Brigadier General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi, chief of the general staff, received in his office at the general command this morning the Sudanese military delegation led by Major General Ahmad al-Fadil, director of the officers cadre affairs in the Sudanese Armed Forces. The chief of staff and the Sudanese delegation discussed means of strengthening military relations between the two fraternal countries in the field of training and exchange of expertise. [Excerpt] [Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1310 GMT 29 Nov 83 GF]

1984 Trade Protocol To Increase Trade With USSR

NC011243 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA) — Egypt and the Soviet Union today signed a new trade protocol for 1984 aimed at increasing the volume of trade exchange between the two countries to reach 500 million pounds sterling. It should be recalled that the volume of trade exchange between the two countries for the year 1983 amounts to 400 [figure as received] pounds sterling. The protocol was signed for Egypt by Husayn Ahmad Husayn, Ministry of Economy first under secretary; and for the Soviet Union by Grishin, deputy minister of foreign trade, who is currently visiting Cairo. In another development, a 12-member Soviet delegation today ended talks that lasted 6 days. The Soviet delegation represents the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the State Committee for Planning, and the foreign currency, banks, and import-export bodies. The 1984 protocol is part of the trade agreement that was signed between the two countries in 1962.

Soviet Official Leaves for India

NC020633 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2253 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA) — Mr Kissinev, first under secretary of the Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry [name and title as received] and member of the Soviet trade delegation currently on a visit to Egypt, this evening left Cairo for New Delhi. The rest of the members of the trade delegation are scheduled to leave Cairo next Saturday.

Iraqi Official on Egyptian Support, Gulf War

NC020946 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2359 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA) — Mr 'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, the Iraqi first deputy minister of information, has said that his country is satisfied with Egypt's stand on Iraq. He stressed that Iran bears the responsibility for starting the Gulf war by having abrogated the 1975 agreement signed by Iraq and Iran in Algeria. In an interview to be carried tomorrow, Friday, by the *AL-JUMHIRYAH* daily, Mr Muhsin expressed his country's hope to solve the conflict peacefully so that the Iraqi people can concentrate on implementing ambitious development plans. Replying to a question about the Egyptian-Iraqi relations, the Iraqi official said: When I look at the Egyptian citizens taking part in the development projects in Iraq, I feel that Arab unity is materializing between the two countries. Muhsin expressed his country's appreciation for the stand which the Egyptian people and government are taking toward Iraq; foremost President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, who always understands the Iraqi position.

On the evaluation of the Arab stands on the Iraqi-Iranian war, Muhsin said: We are not fighting this war to defend Iraq alone, but also to defend the values of unity and the achievements accomplished by the peoples of the area.

The Iraqi official pointed out that there are discrepancies in Arab stands. He said that the Egyptian people were as helpful as could be expected, adding: On the other hand, we are grieved by the stands of the Libyan and Syrian regimes who did not keep silent and neutral on this war, but supported Iran while it is trying to occupy Arab territories. They supplied Iran with weapons and expertise. Damascus even cut the Iraqi pipelines passing through Syria. Answering a question about a solution acceptable to Baghdad on the Iraq-Iran conflict, the Iraqi official said: Iraq is still calling for peace consistent with the interests of both nations — and also with the interests of the Arab nations. Muhsin added, this is not new; it came out only four days after the eruption of the all-out fighting and was made by President Saddam Husayn in person. The Iraqi official said that his country has no conditions, it only insists that the solution contains two rights:

1. Iranian recognition of Iraq's sovereignty over its territories, in keeping with the international charters and conventions.

2. Iranian non-interference in Iraqi internal affairs; given that Iran does not become a stepping-stone for the others who interfere in Iraqi affairs.

Ghazalah Attends Celebration for New Helicopter

NC011415 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, today attended the Armed Forces' celebration marking the receipt of the first "Gazelle" helicopter completely assembled in the war factories in cooperation between one of the French companies and the Arab Organization for Industrialization [AOI]. This is the first stage in the process for the complete manufacture of the helicopter. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah delivered a speech on this occasion in which he declared that the Armed Forces secured a deal for the supply of Brazilian "Embraer" training aircraft, which is considered one of the most modern training aircraft. He pointed out that the AOI is playing an effective role in the field of war production in Egypt, which has become a strong lofty edifice for Egypt and the Arab nation and a protective shield for it against any threat or danger.

[Begin Abu Ghazalah recording] The Egyptian Armed Forces constantly provide every assistance to the AOI and all the Arab factories in all fields. They provide the expertise and funds required by these costly industries, which could serve as support for the national economy because war production all over the world constitutes support for the national economy of states. We hope that Egyptian war production will also be a strong support for our Egyptian economy and an impetus to this Arab nation to always be at the forefront of the nations. We have lagged behind very much, and we want to catch up with the world which has advanced greatly beyond us. [end recording]

Ahmad Zindu, chairman of the AOI board of directors, then delivered a speech in which he referred to the accomplishments made by the organization in the production of aircraft, missiles, and armored vehicles. He said that 15 "Alpha Jet" aircraft have been produced, of which the Air Force has received 13 aircraft. The aircraft "Mirage 2000" will soon be produced within the framework of the cooperation between the Egyptian and French war factories. The Brazilian "Embraer" training aircraft will

also be produced. At the end of the ceremony, the AOI displayed some of its war products, which included missiles against low-flying aircraft of the type "Saqr" [Hawk], "Saqr-30" [Hawk-30], and "Saqr-18" [Hawk-18], types of jeep vehicles, armored M-113 vehicles, and the armored "Fahd" [Panther] vehicle. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah then inspected the exhibition of the AOI products and watched an air display by a "Gazelle" helicopter.

Ghali on U.S.-Israeli Cooperation, Lebanon, Iraq

NC012114 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1908 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Paris, 1 Dec (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has emphasized that the increasing U.S.-Israeli cooperation at the expense of Arab-U.S. cooperation does not favor the peace process. In an interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine, to be published in the magazine's edition tomorrow, Friday, Dr Ghali explained that a goal of Egyptian diplomacy is to convince Washington to strike some kind of balance in its relations with the Arab world and Israel, because if diplomacy is to play an efficacious role in the service of peace, this role will require such a balance. Dr Ghali affirmed that, at this phase, Egyptian moves are not solely aimed at resolving the Lebanese crisis alone, but these moves are more inclusive and comprehensive, and they are aimed at achieving a comprehensive and lasting peace in the area — and Lebanon is a part of this area.

In his interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine, Dr Butrus Ghali warned that Lebanon has turned into an international issue, and even into a cold war conflict. He said that the likelihood exists that the confrontation between the two superpowers, or a world war, might begin in Lebanon. Dr Ghali expressed the hope that this will not happen.

Dr Ghali asserted that a solution to the Lebanese issue will begin with the cessation of all kinds of foreign interference so that an inter-Lebanese dialogue can begin that would remove the causes of sectarian differences and permit all the Lebanese to lead a secure life. The minister of state for foreign affairs said: We support the Geneva conciliation conference. Furthermore, through our contacts with the Lebanese sides, we are doing what we can to contribute to the conference's success. President Mubarak asked me to go to Beirut 48 hours before the conference convened, and I met with President Amin al-Jumayyil and with a number of Lebanese leaders.

Dr Butrus Ghali spoke of Egypt's relations with the Arab world. He emphasized that Egypt stands against the policies of axes and blocs — a policy from which the Arab world has endured great suffering, and from which the Arab world is still suffering. He said: We are prepared to cooperate with all the Arab brothers in the interest of the pan-Arab causes. However, we refuse to enter into blocs that would increase the current fragmentation of the Arab world. In his interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine, the minister of state for foreign affairs added that they look for solutions for some Arab problems even more than they seek a solution for the question of the Arab world's return to Egypt [as received]. He affirmed that Egypt does not plan to attend the coming Arab summit conference. He said that we welcome any Arab action, be it collective or bilateral, that would help buttress Arab solidarity. With regard to Egypt's support for the PLO, Dr Ghali asserted that Egypt has waited for no appeal to manifest its backing for the PLO, as well as its support for the PLO's legitimacy, and for the freedom and independence of its decisionmaking.

Dr Butrus Ghali emphasized that understanding between Egypt and Iraq (?is total), and that diplomatic relations will resume at the appropriate time. He said the depth of the relations and cooperation between Egypt and Iraq makes the existence of official diplomatic relations a moot point. He noted that there are over 1 million Egyptian ambassadors in Iraq. The reason is that the Egyptians who work alongside their Iraqi brothers represent Egypt and express its people's good intentions toward the fraternal Iraqi people. Dr Ghali noted the visit by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to Morocco. Dr Ghali described the visit as important and successful, and as having given momentum to a trend that had previously emerged on Morocco's part. This trend was illustrated through President Husni Mubarak's meeting with King Hassan II in New York, through Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta's visit to Cairo, and through the visit of Dr Usamah al-Baz to Rabat.

In his interview, Dr Butrus Ghali broached the situation in southern Sudan and Egyptian backing for Khartoum. (?He said) Egypt's solidarity with Sudan and with the Sudanese people is unbounded, and what binds them together is stronger than a mere alliance. It is our hope and conviction, he said, that it is possible to resolve all issues through dialogue and through respect for the principles on which the 1972 agreement is based — an agreement whose bases were laid down by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. He added that, naturally, such a resolution of issues requires the cessation of all foreign interference in Sudan's domestic affairs and the halting of the conspiracies that are being concocted against the unity and integrity of fraternal Sudan.

In his interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine, Dr Ghali condemned the Libyan intervention in Chad. He emphasized that the cessation of the fighting in Chad does not mean that the issue has been frozen, but that efforts are still being exerted to find a way out of this crisis on the basis of Chad's freedom, independence, and sovereignty under the leadership of its legitimate government.

With regard to Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union, Dr Butrus Ghali said the Soviet Union is a major state and Egypt is a nonaligned state. From this premise, the natural evolution of matters would bring about relations and cooperation between Cairo and Moscow. He said: These relations have passed through an acute phase. However, the clouds that had overcast these relations have begun to clear to the extent that our relations in the trade, economic, and cultural fields have become good. He also noted that diplomatic relations exist between the two countries.

Concerning Egypt's attitude toward the U.S. invasion of Grenada, the minister of state for foreign affairs said Egypt voted at the UN General Assembly in favor of the resolution that condemned the U.S. intervention in Grenada. In his interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine, Dr Ghali emphasized

that Egypt is opposed to foreign interference in other states' domestic affairs and to the use of force in international relations.

Investment Minister Returns From European Trip

NC020820 Cairo MENA in English 2313 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Cairo, Dec 1 (MENA) — Minister of Investment Affairs and International Cooperation Dr Wajih Shindi returned home tonight from Paris after an eight-day tour which took him to Britain and France where he had talks with officials concerned with investment activity in Egypt. In an arrival statement, Dr Shindi said businessmen of the two countries expressed their readiness to take part in carrying out investment projects in Egypt, particularly those related to agriculture and industry which had already been distributed among them. In this way, Dr Shindi said, problems with foreign investors are solved. Dr Shindi explained that in the past period, these problems were represented in not adopting rapid and clear-cut decisions, bureaucracy, and not determining fields of investment. During his tour of France and Britain, Dr Shindi also reviewed economic cooperation ties with the two countries as well as progress achieved in 1983.

A meeting will be held here in December in which a West German businessmen team will take part, he said. U.S. businessmen will also take part in another meeting to be held in January as part of the meetings planned by the Ministry of Investment.

Official for Interests in Jordan Appointed

JN020802 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Cairo — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has decided to appoint Ihab Wahbah as official in charge of the Egyptian interests in Jordan to replace Nabil Badir who has been transferred to an important post at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. It is noteworthy that Nabil Badir exerted great efforts to strengthen the relations between Jordan and Egypt.

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,297
JN011732 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Communique No 1,297 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 1 December 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces, while celebrating the immortal martyr's day with our proud people, emphasize that our valiant sons will continue to be models of pride and examples of valor and sacrifice. History will record their heroic deeds and great sacrifices with pride, glory, and gratitude. The Iraqis' victory over the covetous enemies will continue, and curses and defeats will continue to haunt the criminal Khomeyniites and their suspect and rancorous henchmen and allies.

The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our valiant combat patrols carried out a raid against the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the area opposite the positions of one of our forward units east of Basra, killing or wounding several enemy troops and destroying two excavators. One enemy troop was killed and one infantry position was destroyed elsewhere in the same sector.

2. One of our forward units opened fire on an enemy patrol trying to approach our forward positions in the northern sector of the battlefield and forced it to flee after killing or wounding some of its elements.

3. One was killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. Yesterday evening and today the spiteful Iranian enemy shelled the town of Mandali, the Khurmal subdistrict, and the (Shandari) and (Shahrazur) villages and their environs with artillery. The savage enemy shelling caused damage and losses to a number of civilian establishments in these towns and villages.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 December 1983

President Addresses Families of Martyrs
JN011616 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has said that the past period of fighting was much longer than the period we will wait before the aggressors yield to the fact that they are incapable of achieving their hostile aims against Iraq.

Addressing the martyrs' families at a ceremony held to award a group of martyrs the Ar-Rafidayn decoration and valor medals on the occasion of Iraq's celebration of martyr's day, the president said: We will remain faithful to the pledge and will safeguard the trust put in us. We will preserve Iraq's honor and will prevent the aggressors from occupying Iraq's territory, desecrating its soil, and humiliating its people.

President Saddam Husayn talked about the meaning of martyrdom for the sake of the homeland and about martyr's day in Iraq. He said: On such a day 2 years ago, the criminal hands assassinated an elite group of Iraqi men who had been captured. They were killed while they were chained and imprisoned by the Iranians. The Iranians used this wicked action to express their heinous history and to record an additional heinous history. The Iraqis will never forget this hateful action and criminal deed by the land of Persia.

Trade, Transportation Minutes Signed With Kuwait
JN011319 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Iraq and Kuwait last night signed a joint minutes at the conclusion of the meetings of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti trade, customs, and transit committee. These minutes include increasing the size of trade exchange between the two brotherly countries, taking the necessary measures to open a Kuwaiti trade center in Baghdad, participating in the international and specialized fairs which are held in both countries, organizing and facilitating transportation, and exempting goods from transit fees.

On the Iraqi side, the director general of the department of economic relations with Arab countries at the Ministry of Trade, and on the Kuwaiti side, Badr 'Abd al-Latif 'Abd ar-Rahim, director of external trade department at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, signed the minutes.

Oil Minister on Production, Export Plans
GF020928 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0650 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Dec (WAKH) — Qasim Ahmad Taqi, Iraqi oil minister, has announced that Iraq has begun implementation of projects aimed at resuming the export of Iraqi oil through its ports on the Arab Gulf.

He said these projects, scheduled to be completed in a year's time, will enable Iraq to export quantities of oil exceeding the capacity of the Iraqi-Turkish line currently operating, but less than the export capacities through the Gulf before those outlets were closed after the war started.

In his statement to the WAKH correspondent in Baghdad, Taqi did not give any details about these projects. He only said the Oil Ministry has put forward a plan and study to maintain the war-hit installations and to set up some others to replace some of them at other sites. He said exporting oil through the Gulf during the war is an issue only involving the ministry but that it involves the political and military leadership. The Oil Ministry has not been informed of any decision about its plan, he said.

Answering a question on operations to expand the Iraqi-Turkish line, he said latest reports indicate that the first phase of expansion will be completed before the 10th of December when export quantities will reach 900,000 barrels per day.

He said that the second phase of expansion will be completed before the end of April when export capacity will reach 1 million

barrels per day. He noted that the Turkish side has been able during the year 1983 to provide the protection necessary for the line and solve all technical difficulties and problems.

The Iraqi oil minister described the efforts the Turkish authorities have made in this regard as enormous and extraordinary and said that they reduced the amount of stoppage to less than that of previous years. He said the project of exporting liquid gas to Turkey and through Turkey to other countries has entered the stage of study and analysis by consultants. Choosing an engineering company to do the designs will be made in agreement with the Turkish side during this month and final papers of tender and designs will be prepared for announcement during the month of March. He expressed the hope that this project will be completed to enable Iraq for the first time to export gas which will, according to initial studies, reach 3 million tons per year by 1986.

On exploration for oil near Baghdad, Taqi said this matter is not new and that companies have been working on this for years and results indicate that huge quantities of oil are available in areas east and west of Baghdad. Taqi affirmed that Iraq's fixed reserve of crude oil is now 59 billion barrels and this figure will rise in 1 or 1 1/2 years to 100 billion barrels after explorations in several fields for semi-fixed reserves have been completed. He said Iraq has received requests from several international consortiums offering the financing and running of the new oil line through Saudi Arabia. The project has now entered the stage of preparation of designs for the first phase which will link Iraqi oilfields in the south with the Petroline which links eastern Saudi Arabia with western Saudi Arabia on the Red Sea, he said. He added that this phase is expected to be completed within 1 year of implementation and that the export capacity will be set by the capacity available for use in the Saudi line. The second phase, which is to extend a line off the Saudi line and run it parallel to Yanbu', should be completed in less than 2 years. The completed project's maximum capacity should be about 1.6 million barrels per day.

Qasim Ahmad Taqi expressed his conviction that 1984 will witness a slight rise in demand for OPEC oil. He said this rise will probably increase the OPEC production ceiling to 18-18.5 million barrels per day. He added that demand for oil in general is not (?strong), or that demand has weakened as compared to the period at the end of the last decade and the beginning of the 80's because of the world economic situation and the use of other energy resources. He speculated that evidence of this rise in the demand for OPEC oil will begin in the second half of next year.

The Iraqi oil minister affirmed that Iraq is determined to increase its production quota to 1.8 million barrels per day. He said the proposal which he will present to the ministerial meeting which will be held in Geneva next Wednesday is a reasonable, satisfactory, and just one and that it should win approval. He said Iraq's production share which is 1.2 million barrels per day does not represent Iraq's real weight within OPEC and that it was not an objective share. Yet Iraq accepted it at that time for the simple reason that its production was less than that figure.

Taqi emphasized that the increase in Iraq's export capacity, the rise in local consumption oil products, the availability of extra oil outputs, and Iraq's right for a chance to make up for the losses inflicted on it as a result of not meeting the specified share, affirm the legitimacy of Iraq's request.

The Iraqi oil minister indicated that the Iraqi request to increase its production quota means that some other members who had shares bigger than their size will have to reduce their shares. He said OPEC has to approve this proposal because it is just and realistic. In the event that some countries refuse and do not view this request objectively and justly, this would mean that these countries want to be the beneficiaries all the time which contradicts the essence of OPEC's basic goals.

The Iraqi oil minister accused Iran of exceeding its assigned production share. He said the Iranian regime's current production exceeds its share of 2.4 million barrels per day and that its sale price is below the set price. He asserted that this violation is known to OPEC and there are other countries which are not adhering to their set shares.

Taqi said the idea of increasing oil prices again during 1984 [sentence incomplete]. He said that the current price was set to be competitive with other energy resources and that OPEC believes that the current price should be maintained during 1984 and probably 1985. He added: If an increase is adopted sometime in the future, it should not be a large one so that the price oil will allow it to remain competitive with other energy resources.

Concluding, the Iraqi oil minister said Iraq still adheres to its nominee for the OPEC secretary general. He is the most qualified and the best, he said, and that if Iraq's nominee does not receive support, we will call for the implementation of the second clause of the statue which provides for altering alphabetical order. This means we will begin with Algeria for an unrenewable period of 2 years.

Qasim Ahmad Taqi said the number of candidates for the OPEC secretary general has risen to four after Algeria and Venezuela have announced their candidates. He expressed the hope that the result of the next ministerial conference will be successful. Consensus is the only way to keep OPEC effective and influential, he said.

Red Cross Official Leaves Baghdad 1 December

JN011053 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA) — Alexandre Hay, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and his accompanying delegation left Baghdad today at the end of a short visit to Iraq. In a statement to INA, Hay described his talks with Iraqi officials as successful and positive.

AD-DUSTUR Reports on Reagan-Shamir Talks
JN011545 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Dec 83 pp 1, 16

[Text] Tel Aviv, Washington, Agencies — Tel Aviv disclosed yesterday that three secret agreements were signed between Israel and the United States.

In an exclusive statement to the Israeli radio, broadcast yesterday, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that among the points on which an agreement was reached with the U.S. side and which could be revealed are those on holding joint military maneuvers, storing military equipment in Israel for emergency purposes, and selling the United States $250 million in Israeli equipment a year, in addition to a one time sale of other equipment for the U.S. Army worth $200 million.

A special committee will meet within 6 weeks in order to implement these agreements.

It was also announced that the United States intends to provide Israel with fragmentation bombs and to help in manufacture the new "Lavi" aircraft, as well as other grants, aid, and facilities.

The Israeli prime minister and foreign minister resumed talks with senior U.S. officials yesterday in order to complete their discussion of decisive measures aimed at promoting their political, military, and strategic relations, as Shamir and President Reagan declared the night before last following 2 days of intensive talks on all aspects of bilateral relations, the situation in Lebanon, and the progress of the Middle East settlement.

President Reagan said that the two sides agreed to form a joint political group, to unify the military planning measures, to carry out joint maneuvers, to store U.S. weapons in Israel, to share modern technology, in addition to their agreement on other issues.

Reagan said that his administration will ask Congress to give better conditions for security aid to Israel, to help Israel develop the components of the Israeli fighter plane "Lavi" in the United States, to give licenses to manufacture these components in Israel, and to allow U.S. contractors to conclude deals with the Israeli Government in accordance with U.S. law.

A U.S. official indicated that Washington is ready to resume selling Israel the cluster bombs that were banned last July after Israel used them to shell civilian areas in Lebanon.

However, he pointed out that lifting the export ban on these bombs must be preceded by a written Israeli pledge to use them only for defensive purposes.

On the political level, the two sides renewed their pledge to adhere to the 17 May Lebanese-Israeli agreement, thus clearly ignoring Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who arrived in Washington yesterday.

Reagan said: We have agreed that all efforts should be exerted to expedite the implementation of the 17 May agreement between Lebanon and Israel.

Reagan added that appropriate security measures for Israel's northern borders must be given the utmost priority.

Shamir and Reagan agreed that the only basis for solving the Lebanese crisis is the complete implementation of the 17 May agreement.

However, it became apparent that the two sides did not hold the same views on certain issues, among these are two principal issues —President Reagan's initiative for settling the Middle East crisis, and the Israeli Judaization policy in the occupied West Bank.

In response to a question on whether the Israelis had given any indication of changing their positions, a senior U.S. official said: Shamir has not changed his position. He is only committed to the Camp David accords. However, as you may have noticed, Shamir did not openly reiterate his rejection of the Reagan plan. He has decided to restudy it.

Regarding the settlements, the official said that Reagan did not receive any promises that Israel will freeze them.

In his statement, Reagan reaffirmed his commitment to the initiative he announced last 1 September. For his part, Shamir said that Israel is willing to renew the peace course and to discuss the final status of the West Bank after the implementation of autonomy within the framework of the Camp David accords.

The U.S. official, who participated in all the negotiations between the two sides, gave some explanations about the statements made by Reagan and Shamir and for the past 2 days' discussions.

Asked if the measures that were announced yesterday will have a negative impact on the moderate Arab countries, the official said: I do not believe that the moderate Arabs will react. They are less anxious now than they were in 1981, when the United States and Israel announced the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation.

He added: Arab fears deal principally with the occupied territories and the issue of settlements.

Observers in the U.S. capital commented by saying: It was clear that the United States and Israel were relying on the fact that the Arab countries will not adopt any violent measures against the new strategic cooperation agreement between Tel Aviv and Washington.

The observers noted that the United States had agreed to all Israel's demands and conditions without obtaining any covert or overt Israeli promise in return.

The United States will also increase its aid to Israel in the form of unpaid grants. It will also allow the exportation of the technology required to manufacture the Lavi plane. It will also allow an agreement to establish a free trade zone between the two sides similar to the agreement that was signed between Israel and Europe. The United States has also agreed to adopt the Israeli point of view regarding the 17 May agreement, despite the fact

that it is aware that such an action will foil the negotiations on the Lebanese nationalist reconciliation in Geneva.

In return for this, Israel has not committed itself to the unconditional withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon in order to strengthen Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's position, as Washington wants. Neither has Israel changed its stand toward the Reagan plan, despite the fact that President Reagan has used all of his impact in order to support the plan.

In reply to another question, the senior U.S. official said that Shamir has given guarantees to the effect that Israel will not take any unilateral action in the future without consulting with the United States, even in matters related to U.S. interests.

The U.S. journalists who listened to the senior U.S. official's briefing were surprised by the concessions that have been offered to the Israelis compared with the very few concessions that Shamir has offered. One of the journalists commented on this, saying that Reagan has already guaranteed the 1984 elections.

President Reagan has said that the new joint political and military group, which will hold its first semi-annual meetings in January 1984, will discuss promoting cooperation between the two states such as joint planning, joint maneuvers, and the stockpiling of U.S. hardware in Israel. He added: This group will pay special attention to the threats against our joint interests — threatsthat are brought about by the increase of Soveit involvement in the Middle East.

Official Israeli circles have noticed that President Reagan was concerned about making a special impression for Shamir's visit. President Reagan's statements also lacked the lukewarmness that have marked U.S. officials' statements since the invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and Israel's rejection of the U.S. plan on peace in the Middle East.

A senior U.S. official at the U.S. Department of State, who declined to be identified, has said that the U.S.-Israeli agreement on promoting their military relations is considered a message to the USSR and to the parties concerned.

Further Comment on U.S.-Israeli Agreement

AKHBAR AL-USBU': U.S. Credibility Destroyed

JN010944 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 1 Dec 83 p 1

[Editorial: "The New U.S.-Israeli Agreement"]

[Text] In light of the new U.S.-Israeli agreement, which coincides with the anniversary of partitioning [Palestine] and with the international day for solidarity with the Palestinian people, it seems that no positive change will occur in the U.S. stand on the Middle East issue. It seems that U.S. policy is still captive to and absolutely biased toward Israel and to maintaining Israeli military superiority in the region.

Before blaming and criticizing the U.S. Administration, we must admit that our Arab nation is the one responsible for Washington's continued support for the Israeli aggression against the Arab countries. This is because the Arabs, with all their wealth and their great human and materialistic capabilities, have done nothing to make U.S. policymakers realize the dangers to which U.S. interests in the region may be exposed as a result of continuing to support aggression, reneging on the Arab and Palestinian rights, and in asking the victim to pay the price for the aggressor and usurper of Arab territory and rights.

With their current state of division and partitioning, the Arab countries are giving Washington the opportunity to follow the same path which led to the establishment of Israel, the increase in the Israeli danger, and the Israeli desire for expansion and aggression. The Arab countries also gave Israel time enough to implement its expansionist and aggressive schemes without fearing Arab reaction or confrontation.

However, the fact the United States must realize is that Arab weakness and this dark night will not last for ever. The Arab nation will wake up, resist this miserable situation, and become strong and capable of retaliating against any Israeli aggression. This Arab nation will also be capable of taking to task every country that carried out hostile practices against the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian people in particular.

We warn the United States against the danger of pursuing its politicians' desires for assuming power, and for giving in to Zionist blackmail. Washington must realize that everything has an end, and that its bias and support for Israel will soon have repercussions on its interests that will be linked with the harm that has already destroyed the United States' reputation and credibility in the Arab homeland.

AD-DUSTUR: Arab Division Responsible

JN011132 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Dec 83 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Shamir's Visit — Results and Evidence"]

[Text] The practical and direct significance of the amazing results of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to the United States are deeper than any comment, and difficult to understand, because they go beyond any expression of a strong friendship.

Washington gave Israel everything Israel requested or did not request. We can say that Shamir's government obtained from Washington more than any other Israeli Government had ever obtained, beginning with an increase in military, economic, and political support, and ending with the United States providing Israel with cluster bombs and killing tools that U.S. allies in NATO were not able to obtain.

Although we can say a great deal about the results of Shamir's visit to Washington, and about the dangers of the significance of the visit's declared results, we would rather like to raise this simple and direct question: Why does the United States show all this hostility to the Arabs and this blind bias toward Israel at a time when Israel is practicing an aggressive, expansionist policy the methods of which are unmatched by even that of Nazism?

Undoubtedly, the answer to this question is that the Arab nation has become so weak and degraded that other countries, foremost being the United States, no longer consider or fear a nation that has fallen into oblivion.

Since we are not going to punish ourselves and our Arab nation, we like to assert a solid fact: that the fragmentation of our ranks and our internecine fighting over marginal and secondary matters are the main reasons for the disregard of the United States and other countries toward our nation, and for their declared stands which are hostile to our nation.

A quick look at what is taking place in Tripoli and the Palestinian refugee camps around it, and what is taking place in Beirtu and its suburbs explains this U.S. ridicule toward the Arabs and the international disregard for their issues. Although this matter will torment the Arab conscience, it will also minimize the Arab individual's new pains, and will save him from asking questions that do not have answers.

AD-DUSTUR on Dimensions of Accord

JN011402 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Dec 83 pp 1, 21

["Opinion" by Hakim: "An Alliance in Israel's Interest Only"]

[Text] If the agreements on military, political, and strategic cooperation whose implementation measures were adopted by President Reagan and the Israeli prime minister during the latter's current visit to Washington are meant to be a message addressed to Syria, to the USSR, and to all those concerned in the Middle East then "those concerned" other than Syria and the Soviets are the other Arab countries and peoples with which Reagan says his country is eager to maintain cordial relations.

Since Jordan is one of "those concerned," we tell President Reagan that in his attempt to extricate himself from the Lebanese dilemma depending on the Israeli arm, he will finally discover that Israel will exploit his cooperation with it to achieve its own objectives of expansion and aggression and to implement its scheme aimed at swallowing up the occupied Arab territories for good. It will involve him in something more dangerous and deeper than the Lebanese morass.

Perhaps we do not need to remind President Reagan that the "honeymoon" which prevailed over U.S.-Israeli relations during Secretary of State Alexander Haig's term of office gave Israel the opportunity to deal its blow in Lebanon in the summer of 1982, and subsequently to militarily drag the United States into the Lebanese morass from which so far it has not managed to emerge.

Since Israel's establishment, the history of the Israeli-U.S. relations irrefutably proves that Israel has always exploited U.S. assistance and its cordial relations with the United States for waging wars and expanding the area of Arab lands it occupies, thus harming U.S. relations with, and interests in the Arab region. This has been the case to the point that some Arabs have come to believe that the United States, and not Israel, is the primary enemy of the Arab people. It is surprising that President Reagan has not learned a lesson from the history of the Israeli practices at the beginning of his era and during the eras of those presidents before him, unless the forthcoming elections have dominated all other considerations which call for moderation, thus making him put all his weight on Israel's side without committing it to anything and without paying any attention to the great harm to U.S. interests in the region that may result from this reckless policy.

The consolidation of U.S. military cooperation with Israel in such a manner will clearly embarrass those Arab countries which are the friends of the United States, particularly Saudi Arabia and Egypt. This cooperation is not "a message to the Soviets" but "a Christmas gift" Reagan is offering to the USSR with his best wishes for the new year. The Soviet Union has always reaped the results of the disorderly U.S. policy in the Middle East without much effort.

President Reagan will lose his way if he tries to confront the Soviet Union in the region through the strategic cooperation with Israel because he has not asked himself the following simple question: Where and how did the Soviet Union enter this part of the world? It entered through the door of the blind alliance between the United States and Israel against the Arab peoples and their interests and legitimate aspirations. The region's modern history sums up this fact as follows: Whenever the United States trusts itself onto Israel's lap, the Arabs thrust themselves in the opposite direction.

Therefore, President Reagan will discover once again that his alliance with the Likud government is an alliance against the interests of the United States itself in the long run and that the sole beneficiary is Israel.

AR-RA'Y: Endangers U.S. Interests

JN020925 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT 2 Dec 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Peace Over Altar of Elections," *AR-RA'Y* says: The agreement achieved with the Israeli leadership was the outcome of U.S. calculations. Former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said that this is an unjustifiable agreement, and that it might harm the U.S. reputation in the region.

AR-RA'Y says: It is clear that these calculations are linked to an election deal the U.S. Administration made with Israel and Zionism at the expense of the Arab cause. These calculations are also related to the wager on the continuation ofthe deteriorating current Arab situation now and in the future.

It seems that the U.S. calculations did not consider the reaction the frustration may produce in the region. These calculations assumed that Arab regimes would defend U.S. interests and face the waves created by this frustration.

AR-RA'Y continues: This miscalculation and assumption are closer to gambling than anything else, because the waves of frustration are not far from the region. Nobody can predict their

sources or control them, especially since U.S. experience with these waves in Beirut cannot be forgotten. The U.S. Administration is naive if it expects the Arab regimes to offer sacrifices at the altar of U.S. interests by preventing strong waves. It is obvious that this administration did not give any value to its friends in the region, nor respect the tribulations they are facing for its sake or consider them when it achieved the agreement — the deal — it made with the Israeli leadership. The U.S. Administration must not expect these regimes to antagonize their peoples for its sake. This administration must understand that these regimes are friends, but not agents; and that their friendship is linked to the response to their peoples' just cause. Under no circumstances will these regimes be a pawn in the U.S. hands.

AR-RA'Y concludes: As Vance said, the deal the U.S. Administration made with the Israeli leadership is not in the interest of the U.S. reputation. It is also not in the interest of peace and stability in the region. Thus, this is a lost deal politically and ethically, because it gambled with peace over the altar of Jewish votes, and did not take into consideration the strong waves of frustration.

Amman Commentary

JN011737 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Dec 83

["Today's Talk"]

[Text] It is naive to be surprised or astonished at the Israeli-U.S. agreement that resulted from the visit of Shamir and Arens to Washington. Such an agreement has existed since the days of former U.S. Secretary of State General Alexander Haig. This agreement was temporarily suspended for two declared reasons — namely, Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights and its use of cluster bombs against civilians in Lebanon, and the fact that the Zionist invasion went far beyond the limits drawn up for it in Lebanon.

At any rate, the Israeli-U.S. agreement is the outcome of the current Arab situation, the state of Arab fragmentation and fratricide, and the attempts to push the region toward international polarization. Israeli-U.S. relations have not been in need of agreements and treaties since the Truman era, because they are only governed by the two sides' interests, their unity, and contradictions. The Arab stand has no great influence on these relations.

The most important result for Israel in its agreement with the United States is the rescue of the deteriorating Israeli economy. The agreement has saved Israel's deteriorated economy through the U.S. purchase of Israeli weapons, the conversion of loans into grants, and by allowing Israel to export weapons to markets monopolized by the United States. Thus, the new point in the agreement is the rescue of the Israeli economy. We believe that the price that Israel paid to the United States is represented by supporting U.S. President Reagan's administration in the coming elections. From this point of view, Israel has obtained a military, economic, and political force for its regional and expansionist ambitions in order to entrench its occupation of the occupied Arab territories in return for supporting the U.S. President during the coming presidential elections.

It seems that offering Israel this amount of economic, military, and political aid has caused hopes for peace in the region to suffer a relapse. This would strengthen Shamir's intransigent stands toward rejecting any just solution to the region's problems, which are basically the result of this continued support from the beginning of the Zionist aggression against Palestine and the Arab states.

Despite the fact that it is difficult to predict the future of the peace initiatives in the region in light of the new Israeli-U.S. agreement, we still hope on the Arab level that the causes that have led to ignoring the Arab nation through such an agreement — which rewards the aggressor for its aggression — will be eliminated. We also still hope a new stand to deal with the new developments that the Israeli-U.S. agreement has imposed on the Middle East arena will be adopted.

Soviet Journalist Quoted on Support for Syria

JN011220 Amman THE JERUSALEM STAR in English 1-7 Dec 83 p 1

[Article by *THE JERUSALEM STAR* staff writer Khadir Mansur]

[Text] Amman — "We have no material proof that foreign parties are interfering in the clashes between Fatah factions, and we feel sorry that disputes among Fatah have led to bloodshed and deep differences", said Pavel Demchenko, Chief of the Developing Countries Department and member of the editorial board of *PRAVDA*, the official Soviet Communist Party daily this week. In an interview with the *STAR* and two other Middle East newspapers, Mr. Demchenko said, "The Soviet Union however considers PLO under the leadership of 'Arafat the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people because 'Arafat was genuinely and repeatedly elected chairman by the high Palestine National Council."

When asked what the Soviet Union's choice would be if forced to choose between Syria and the PLO, he said, "We totally support Syria, for it is the only regime in the region which is confronting the Israeli-American aggression." He refused to elaborate.

Mr. Demchenko said the Soviet Union "sincerely and deeply believes" that the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict can be reached only if UN resolutions can be implemented, and through negotiations apart from any outside interference and threat.

Asked about the serious, deteriorating situation in Lebanon and how Lebanon can restore its freedom and independence, he said, "all foreign forces should unconditionally withdraw from Lebanese soil." When asked if such withdrawal includes the Syrian forces, he repeated, "all" but refused to specify further.

On the presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, Mr. Demchenko said the Soviet forces will remain in Afghanistan as long as there is "foreign interference," by which he said he meant Pakistan and Iran.

"The Soviet Union has in serious wars supplied Arab progressive countries with the most effective weapons, once supplied to Vietnam," he said. He cited Egypt and Syria as examples of such countries.

"This is why Israel has not launched any offensive against Syria." He repeated the full support of the Soviet Union for Syria, by saying "We support Syria 100 per cent, and in the meantime we are hopeful that the PLO will unite again and restore its good ties with Syria."

Mr. Demchenko was in Jordan for a visit at the invitation of the Jordanian Journalists' Association, with Mr. Konstantin Geyvandov, political analyst for the Soviet daily *IZVESTIYA*.

Al-Jumayyil Meets Reagan, Makes Statement

NC011955 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1848 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Dispatch by the Information Ministry mission from the White House, Washington D.C. — live]

[Excerpts] The Lebanese-U.S. summit between President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and President Ronald Reagan ended a short while ago. A private meeting between Presidents Reagan and al-Jumayyil was held first, and the Lebanese and U.S. delegations then joined the meeting. All the conferees then attended a luncheon hosted by the U.S. President in honor of President al-Jumayyil. After the summit, Presidents Reagan and al-Jumayyil spoke to reporters. In his speech, President al-Jumayyil said: I would like to thank President Reagan and the American people, whom we owe much. This is my third visit to Washington and it may be the most important visit because of the intensity of the crisis in Lebanon and the region. I am sure that any well-studied and carefully implemented plan at this time will be a great achievement leading to stability, security, and peace.

Al-Jumayyil added: Being partners, we discussed together today the best means not only for implementing the agreements, but also for ensuring the best way and suitable conditions to achieve our common interests and goals. We agreed on the need for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and for the return of full sovereignty and authority to the legitimate Lebanese Government throughout Lebanon's internationally recognized borders. This alone will put an end to the continuous tragedy from which not only the Lebanese people but also the Americans in Lebanon are suffering. It is therefore essential, Al-Jumayyil added, for us all to stop the cycle of violence that for the past 10 years has prevented the Lebanese people from exercising their right to determine their future and to establish a free and modern society with full social and economic equality.

Al-Jumayyil added: I have met with full understanding in Washington over the fact that extricating Lebanon from the current impasse is not only just and right, but will also ensure the common interests of Lebanon's neighbors, as well as of the United States. Concluding his speech, Al-Jumayyil said: I view our talks today with pride and with a feeling that they will achieve our goals. I am grateful for President Reagan's commitment and for the American people's commitment to supporting us. I am hopeful that our talks, enhanced by the courage and views of the Lebanese and American people, will result in peace in Lebanon and the entire area.

Salim Urges U.S. To Work Toward Commitments

LD011341 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Tunis, 1 Dec TAP — In a statement to the Tunisian paper *AL-'AMAL* during his visit to Rome and on the eve of his departure for the United States, the Lebanese foreign minister stressed that Lebanon will ask Washington to work toward the aims it has committed itself to, which are represented in the evacuation of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon and the safeguarding of Lebanon's good relations with the Arab world.

In the statement which was published today by the Tunisian paper, Dr Salim declined to comment on the statement made by the Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, regarding the strengthening of U.S.-Israeli relations. He said briefly: I think that there are many points and details that we will discuss with President Reagan and the secretary of state, Shultz. Regarding Lebanese-Palestinian relations, Dr Elie Salim said: Lebanon will always be committed to all just causes in the world and to supporting the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. He added:

Lebanon was the main rostrum for Palestinians in all the organizational, cultural, ideological, political, and military aspects, and, in addition to this, Lebanon is committed to protecting the rights of the Palestinians residing in its territories in a legitimate and lawful way. Regarding Syria, Dr Elie Salim said: The Syrian position is now more understanding of the situation in Lebanon. This means that Syria understands the difficulty Lebanon finds itself in. Regarding the Geneva Conference on National Dialogue, Dr Salim said that the second round of the National Dialogue Conference will deal with political and administrative reforms with the aim of forming an extensive government, that is, a government of national unity in which all leaders in Lebanon, including the leaders of the National Salvation Front, will take part. The Lebanese foreign minister expressed his satisfaction with the role played by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to secure the success of the conference, remarking: We have collated all the proposals from all sides and we are now studying these proposals, so that at the next stage we'll be ready to discuss these issues effectively and quickly for the sake of the united interests of Lebanon.

Reportage on Shooting of Druze Judicial Chief

Killed in His Home

NC011244 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din, chief of the Druze religious judiciary was found shot in his house in Al-Watwat quarter at 1300 today [words indistinct]. He was hit in the head by bullets. According to the preliminary information from current investigations, the perpetrator of the crime was not a stranger to the victim because he had embraced Shaykh Taqiy ad-Din, according to the house maid who went to fetch a cup of coffee at the request of the Shaykh. When she returned, she found the body lying on the floor of the living room, and the perpetrator, who killed him with a gun equipped with a silencer, had fled. Immediately afterward, the body was removed to the American University Hospital to determine the cause of death.

Curfew Imposed After Shooting

NC011259 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1250 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The Army Command's Guidance Directorate has issued the following statement:

Following the preliminary information that has been reiterated about the sinful attack on the late Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din,and in order to facilitate expeditious measures and the

current investigations, the Army Command has decided to impose a curfew in Beirut as of 1700 today, 1 December 1983 until 0500 tomorrow morning. The previous curfew and the exemptions from it will continue in force as of 0500 tomorrow morning.

Security Meeting Held

NC011328 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] A security meeting was held at the government palace under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan in the presence of Colonel Uthman Uthman, acting director general of the internal security forces, and Brigadier General 'Umar Makhzuni, director of the Beirut police, to discuss the abominable crime which claimed the life of His Eminence Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din, chief of the Druze religious judiciary. During the meeting, contacts were made with all the security commands in the Army and public security with a view to pursue the subject expeditiously and to give it utmost attention because of its grave seriousness and the prominent position of the departed. The hand of fate and sedition assassinated Shaykh Taqiy ad-Din at his house on Midhat Basha Street today by opening gunfire on him. He was found murdered inside his house at 1250 at noon today [as heard]. A comprehensive investigation is now underway to reveal the implications of this abominable crime.

Upon the conclusion of the security meeting, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan commented on the ugly crime by saying that it is a sinister crime not only because it involved a man of religion, who was a dear friend, His Eminence Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din, but also because it expresses the collapse of values and deterrents in some people who do not fear God nor conscience, and who do not attach any importance to any of the principles and values which the Lebanese continue to eagerly safeguard despite all that has afflicted them in their life. He added: This crime is a serious link in the chain of sedition that is rejected by the Lebanese, especially at a time when all of us are diligently trying to achieve reconciliation. I have given strict orders that extraordinary efforts be made to uncover the perpetrators and the implications and to pursue this matter with complete determination to reveal all the facts.

Junblatt Accuses 'Phalangist Gangs'

JN012140 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2050 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus, 1 December (SANA) — Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, affirmed in a statement here that Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din was assassinated today by criminal hands belonging to the fascist Phalangist gangs that infiltrated into Beirut and its suburbs under the cover of the legitimate authority. Junblatt called on the Lebanese authorities to carry out an immediate investigation into this assassination [words indistinct] these authorities, which differentiate between the Lebanese citizens allowing the Phalangists to infiltrate into West Beirut and do what they want. Junblatt said that continued deterioration in the security situation and the expansion of the areas being subjected to the shelling during the past 2 days will hamper not only the accord process in Lebanon, but also the second session of the Geneva conference.

Junblatt called on the Lebanese Army to stop shelling the mountain villages in order to enable the reopening of Beirut Airport and to facilitate relief work for Dayr al-Qamar [words indistinct]. Junblatt stressed the need to achieve Lebanese national accord, because it is the prerequisite and way for liberating all Lebanese territory. He said that he hoped that President Amin al-Jumayyil's U.S. visit will lead to liberating Lebanese territory from the Israeli forces so that Lebanon will regain its sovereignty and independence.

PSP Statement on Killing

JN012132 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Beirut —The Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has expressed deep pain and sorrow over the assassination of Shayk Halim Taqiy ad-Din at his house in West Beirut this evening. In a statement issued tonight, the PSP stressed that this assassination attempt is aimed at escalating civil war so that the isolationists, Zionists, and the United States will be able to impose complete hegemony and control over Lebanon, and turn it into a terrorist and hostile base against fraternal Syria, the basic ally of the Lebanese nationalist forces.

'Murderer' Identifies Himself

NC020708 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Businesses in West Beirut and the southern suburbs are closed today in denunciation of the murder of Shaykh Taqiy ad-Din. This comes in response to a call by Mufti Shaykh Hasan Khalid, Shaykh Muhammad Shams ad-Din, and Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqrah. According to preliminary information, the investigation sources said that the murderer identified himself as Muhammad al-Basha. Meanwhile, it was learned from a security meeting headed last night by General Uthman Uthman, the director general of the Internal Security Forces, that the murderer is a 25-year-old man.

Army Warns Curfew Violaters in Greater Beirut

NC011730 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Statement issued by the Army Command's Guidance Directorate on 1 December]

[Text] Out of concern for public security and in affirmation of previous statements, and following the intensification of Army patrols in all streets and quarters of Greater Beirut, the Army Command has decided the following:

1. To detain violaters of the curfew in all Beirut areas and to refer them to the quarters concerned.

2. To open fire at anyone carrying arms without warning.

The Army Command reminds all citizens to obey the instructions of checkpoints and patrols to ensure their safety.

Junblatt Holds News Conference in Damascus
NC011800 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1645 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt today expressed his hope that President al-Jumayyil, during his visit to Washington, will achieve the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. At a news conference in Damascus, Junblatt said: I hope that President al-Jumayyil, in keeping with the resolutions of the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva, will achieve, during his visit to Washington, the liberation of Lebanese territory from the Israeli forces as a step toward sovereignty and independence. We take into consideration, he added, the need to achieve national accord, which is a condition and a way for liberating Lebanese territory.

Junblatt added: While it is imperative to reconvene the Geneva conference, it is also inevitable to stabilize the cease-fire, because if this state of affairs continues it will not serve the national accord process and may hinder the reconvening of the Geneva conference. He called for cooperation to reopen Beirut Airport, for facilitating the process of providing relief for the besieged in Dayr al-Qamar, and for evacuating the elderly from the town in preparation for the convenening of the Geneva conference, on which we pin great hopes, he said.

RFL on Army, Junblatt Clashes in Mountain
NC011234 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The Junblatt gunmen exacerbated the military situation in the mountain around 1310 today when they shelled the Lebanese Army positions in Ra's al-Jabal and Suq al-Gharb from the environs of 'Aytat and also hit the Army positions in Dahr al-Wahsh from 'Alayh. Moreover, the Junblatt gunmen directed bursts of antitank fire at the Lebanese Army positions in the hills of Kayfun and Qabr Shmun from Baysur and Shimlan.

The Lebanese Army has responded to these attacks by inflicting major losses on the ranks of the attackers who,according to security sources, were observed collecting what remained at four of their positions in the edges of Baysur; these positions were directly hit yesterday during the clashes between the Army and the gunmen.

Beirut Airport 'Might Reopen' in 2 Days
NC011252 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1220 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Up to now, Israeli planes are still overflying Beirut and the mountain areas. At the same time Beirut Airport remains at a standstill despite the relative calm that is prevailing in the mountain and the southern suburbs of Beirut while contacts for reopening it, particularly by the Security Arrangements Committee, are continuing. The prime minister and the public works and transport minister are participating in these contacts. Informed sources have said that the airport might reopen within 2 days if the current contacts toward this end succeed.

Security Committee Discusses Reopening
NC011754 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The Security Arrangements Committee held a meeting today in the presence of representatives of all parties. It followed up the tackling of security situations and showed relative satisfaction with the decrease in security violations that Greater Beirut, the southern suburbs, and the mountains witnessed in the past few days. Agreement was reached to exert further efforts with the leaderships of the parties to stabilize the cease-fire on a larger scale.

The committee discussed the issue of reopening Beirut International Airport. The Amal Movement representative said this issue must be discussed separately from the political and security issues, because the airport is a vital utility that concerns all countries. It transpired that all the parties agreed on the need to reopen the airport, provided that this is preceded by certain measures and consultations in coordination with the commands concerned, and particularly the stabilization of the cease-fire.

VOL Says Israeli Forces Shell Syrian Position
NC011539 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1523 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that the Israeli artillery at noon today shelled areas where Syrians are deployed near 'Anjar. Clouds of smoke were seen in the sky. Syrian and Israeli aircraft overflew the area without any dogfight taking place.

Israeli Patrol Attacked in Sidon 1 December
NC011330 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] At 1410 today, a big explosion was heard at the southern approach to Sidon near the Shu'ayb Hospital. The explosion was aimed against a mobile Israeli patrol. The Israeli forces immediately sealed off the area. Moments later a helicopter was seen, perhaps to move casualties. In the meantime, Israeli troop carriers sped through the city toward the scene of the explosion, which was heard in all suburbs of Sidon.

Israeli Targets Attacked in South Lebanon 1 Dec
NC020752 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Despite all the countermeasures taken by the Israeli occupation forces in the south, the Lebanese national resistance men continued their heroic operations against the occupation forces. Yesterday, they undertook two daring operations: The first was in Ma'ruf Sa'd Boulevard, south of Sidon; and the second was in the Az-Zahrani area. The attacks were aimed at

an Israeli patrol and convoy. Seven Israeli soldiers fell and an APC and a Jeep were destroyed as a result. In keeping with the usual practice in the aftermath of such operations, the Israeli occupations forces sealed off the area, combed it with the support of helicopters, and arrested several southern inhabitants.

Ansar Prisoners Reportedly Join Amal Forces
NC010814 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that some of those who were detained in Ansar camp in the south have joined the Junblatt and Amal fighters in Ash-Shuf and the southern suburbs of Beirut after travelling on the Jazzin-Niha road.

VOL: 15 Pro-'Arafat Palestinians Enter Syria
NC010935 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The entry of 15 pro-'Arafat Palestinians into Syria via Az-Zabdani has been recorded. They smuggled weapons on the backs of donkeys which were intended for Muslim Brotherhood officials. It has been learned that Fatah official 'Abdallah, nicknamed Abu Mahmud, is still in Damascus, and that after learning about the entry of the pro-'Arafat terrorist groups, the Syrian authorities initiated a combing operation in the area of Ma'rubu and Az-Zabdani looking for them. Moreover, a large scale search operation has taken place in Al-Yarmuk camp after information was received by the authorities indicating that some pro-'Arafat persons are preparing to form a terroristic network aimed at striking the Syrian establishments in Damascus.

Iranian Adviser Confers With Khaddam

GF301720 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30, IRNA — The chief advisor of President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mostafa Mirsalim, and his delegation met with the deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister of Syrian Arab Republic, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, in Damascus Tuesday.

Also attending the meeting was director general of the Afro-Asian affairs of the Iranian Foreign Ministry Hoseyn Lavasani who had returned from Tripoli, northern Lebanon after his first round of talks with the religious and political figures there on resolving the existing (PLO) conflict in Tripoli.

Lavasani and his delegation, who visited Tripoli on Nov. 26 returned to that city again today for the second round of talks with the religious and political figures of Tripoli as well as following up the outcome of their talks.

It should also be recalled that President Khamene'i's chief advisor Mirsalim heading a high-ranking Iranian delegation left Tehran for Damascus on Nov. 24 to deliver the president's message to the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

The delegation was also to discuss with the Syrian officials the important current issues of the region, developments in northern Lebanon and bilateral ties between Iran and Syria.

Ba'th Party Official Receives Hungary's Varkonyi

JN011606 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus, 1 Dec (SANA) — Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs Peter Varkonyi has affirmed his country's absolute support for and the Hungarian people's solidarity with the Arab people's struggle against imperialist conspiracies hostile to the rights of progressive peoples and forces throughout the world.

He made these statements during a meeting here today with Comrade Muhammad Haydar, member of the Ba'th Party National Command and director of the external relations bureau. The Hungarian ambassador in Damascus was also present.

During the meeting, Varkonyi conveyed the greetings of the Hungarian leadership to President Hafiz al-Asad and its wishes for his complete recovery.

He also conveyed the greetings of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party to the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Command.

Haydar spoke highly of the good relations between the two parties and friendly countries.

He briefed his guest on the Arab-Zionist imperialist conflict in the region and the positive role which Syria is playing in order to stop the internecine fighting within the Palestinian revolution and to solve the discord through dialogue.

Popular Army Commander Departs for CSSR 1 Dec

JN011441 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus, 1 Dec (SANA) — Popular Army Commander Comrade Muhammad Ibrahim al-'Ali left Damascus today for Prague at the head of an official delegation. Once in Prague, they will attend a conference involving commanders of popular armies, which will be held in the CSSR capital from 3 to 4 December 1983 with the aim of mobilizing the masses against imperialism and Zionism.

'Erroneous Nature' of U.S. Viewpoints Analyzed

JN011650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, Israel has at last been able to join NATO through the U.S. gate, becoming the most important U.S. ally and the favorite of U.S. generals and White House decisionmakers. Thus, the ugly face of the United States — as well as its hostile attitude toward Arab rights — have been revealed to the Arabs before anyone else. By so generously providing everything requested by the Zionist terrorists, the Reagan administration did not mean to confirm its support for Israel as much as it meant to intimidate the Arabs and frighten them with the specter of an alliance between the tyrannical armies of the United States and Israel.

Candor has undoubtedly been the dominant quality in statements by U.S. and Zionist leaders. They are openly united against Syria, and the agreements they reached also represent an open and direct warning, as well as a blatant threat, against Syria. The purpose of this is to penalize Syria, on the grounds that its positions are based on a commitment to its national and pan-Arab rights, and because it refuses to be a subservient element in the U.S. orbit.

Since Israel is fully convinced — as its war minister has declared — that times have changed and that the Israeli forces, acting alone, cannot subjugate or encroach on Syrian decisionmaking, the United States, which created the Israeli forces, must therefore direct all of its own strength against Syria — or, more precisely, against the ambitions of the Arab man, whose will, conscience, and decision are represented by the Syrian forces. In the face of these imperialist-Zionist threats, Syria is proud to have its will be an aspiration of all those who suffer from U.S. tyranny and aggression. When the United States resorts to all types of alliances and wars in order to encroach on the Syrian will — even on a very small scale — and when all sorts of conspiracies fail, those anxious to achieve freedom and independent decisionmaking have increased confidence in the role of the struggling nation of Syria, in the bravery of its leader, the struggler Hafiz al-Asad, and in the loyalty of its people, who have embarked on a march of struggle that has both a pan-Arab and humanitarian aspect.

What remains is to ask the United States, in a voice confident of its own rights and strength: Does Syria accept provocation and blackmail? Is Syria incapable of confronting such things in a

manner which will make its threats the only task of U.S. and Zionist officials? Is the United States certain that the fire it ignites against Syria will not burn its own hand? One of the incorrect calculations made by the United States concerns the confirmation of the results which that country believes itself to have achieved at the Arab level in its effort to isolate and encircle Syria. All Arab countries are convinced that Syrian strength is their defensive wall and that Syrian steadfastness is their pan-Arab decision. They are also convinced that the U.S.-Israeli alliance is directed against them. How can they be convinced that the agreements concluded by Reagan and Shamir will serve the Arab cause?

Reagan was undoubtedly filled with illusions when he imagined that any Arab ruler, regardless of the extent of his ties to the U.S. Administration, could face the masses and convince them that the U.S.-Israeli intentions are acceptable at the Arab level. While the White House guards claim that their alliance with Israel is not a threat to anyone, they link these claims to warnings and threats against Syria. This proves that the Arabs are the target of these threats, because Syria is their fortress. If the U.S. Administration is now more confident that it has spread sedition among the Arabs, and if it believes that the Arabs constitute a number of nationalities, then this is another mistake made by U.S. planners.

Despite being convinced of the erroneous nature of U.S. views, we in Syria — being confident of our capability and determination — will neither bargain away our rights nor yield to U.S. arrogance and Israeli intransigence. Our leader Hafiz al-Asad has declared that we will not surrender a single inch of Arab land, even if we are forced to remain in a state of war with our enemies for another hundred years.

AL-BA'TH Criticizes U.S. Policy, Reagan

JN020804 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Reagan Slaughters Peace on the Threshold of the White House," *AL-BA'TH* writes The U.S. mirage, — which some had actually believed in — has been dissipated, and the claim that the United States is playing a neutral role in Lebanon or the Middle East as a whole can no longer be accepted or viewed as useful. The United States has adopted a biased position. Its forces in Lebanon, Egypt, Oman, and Somalia are forces of invasion, and they pose no less a threat than do those of the Zionist occupier in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and the Golan Heights.

Reagan wanted to win the U.S. presidency, and, with one move, brought his country into the arena of bloody struggle, thus shattering all hopes for peace in the Middle East. Reagan also wanted to show the world that he has returned to acting, but this time with concrete means to be used to assassinate even the dreams of young children in streets throughout the world.

The military and security agreements Reagan concluded with Shamir and Arens are merely the overt part of an identity of views between the world terrorists in Tel Aviv and those in the White House. Reagan, who has always dreamed of becoming an outstanding actor, is allowing the world to become the victim in a live show where he is cast in the leading role.

AL-BA'TH adds: In its new and overt alliance with Israel against the Arabs, the U.S. Administration has provided additional facts and evidence to show that those who are panting after U.S. solutions are inevitably doomed. This is so because the United States acknowledges no friendship other than that which it has with Israel, fulfills no promise except those to Israel, and makes no move except those which pave the way for the Zionist dream. The United States impudently says that its agreements with Israel are not directed against anyone. Has Israel any enemies other than the Arabs? And is Israel not the one which is occupying Arab land? Therefore, how can any Arab accept this U.S. logic?

Though U.S. friendship has thus far been veiled by a spider's web, the Reagan administration has ripped apart this network, making a decisive decision necessary.

AL-BA'TH wonders: Will the Arabs continue to be spectators while U.S. hands directly, or, indirectly, through Israel, break Arab necks? The answer will inevitably be formulated by the Arab people, because the United States is not a neutral party and its mediation is unacceptable because it has sanctioned the shedding of Arab blood, and has proclaimed its participation with Israel in despoiling the sanctity of everything Arab, after having slaughtered — on the threshold of the White House — all the values embodied by the Statue of Liberty in New York.

Shamir Returns From U.S. Visit, Makes Statement

TA020739 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0700 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Statement by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at Ben-Gurion Airport following his return from United States — live]

[Text] I have just returned from a visit to the United States, in the course of which we conducted, for a number of days, exhaustive and comprehensive talks with the U.S. President, the U.S. secretary of state, the secretary of defense, as well as their senior aides, on all problems pertaining to Israeli-U.S. relations.

The talks were conducted in a very friendly spirit, with mutual understanding, and with mutual trust. The talks covered various issues and were conducted on various planes with different people. We have reached agreements on a number of basic issues.

Let me note some issues on which the talks concentrated. First, the Middle East issue: Lebanon, Syrian aggression, the Iran-Iraq war, Israeli-Egyptian relations, and so on and so forth. In this sphere it was made clear that we see eye-to-eye with the United States regarding developments in Lebanon and the obstacles which prevent an arrangement to promote stability in that country. We agreed that the major obstacle is Syrian aggression, which is massively supported by the Soviet Union. We discussed various plans and alternatives for the future.

We discussed issues concerning the peace process. It was clear to all of us that the State of Israel, the Israeli Government, is prepared at any moment to renew the negotiations in the framework of the Camp David accords with Egypt as well as with Jordan, if it joins the negotiations, and with any element expressing interest in participating in the talks.

On these issues we agreed to set up a framework, a political-military working group which will be made up of Israeli and U.S. representatives. This group will discuss all aspects of relations, cooperation, and coordination of positions between Israel and the United States. This team will recommend certain decisions to the two governments and will implement the decisions.

It was agreed that the United States should make an effort to aid in strengthening Israel's security-military status by complying with various proposals by the IDF, by special arrangements that will increase Israel's preparedness for an emergency. Here, the reference is mainly to emergency warehouses, the contents of which have not yet been precisely determined. It was decided to hold joint Israeli-U.S. maneuvers. A joint Israeli-U.S. team will decide on the nature and timing of these joint maneuvers.

Special attention was given during the meetings to the economic issue, to U.S. aid for the recovery of Israel's economy in order for Israel to cope with its economic difficulties. There was a great deal of sympathy in the U.S. Government on this issue. President Reagan and the secretary of state demonstrated special interest in Israel's economic hardships, and have expressed their willingness to do a lot, in cooperation and coordination with Israel's economic leaders, to overcome these difficulties as soon as possible.

In this framework, it was agreed to speed up the negotiations on the establishment of a free trade zone between Israel and the United States, with the aim of concluding the negotiations positively as soon as possible. Ways for the United States to extend aid to Israel's security exports have been agreed upon. Several matters have been concluded while other matters are still under discussion.

We discussed Israel's security-economic aid. The overall sums to be included in the [U.S.] budget in the next fiscal year have not yet been determined; but there is no doubt that the sums of money will be larger than in the past and larger than were expected.

In the course of the visit I also met with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The Congress was in recess and a considerable number of the committee members came to Washington especially for this meeting. We found a very sympathetic attitude there.

It was possible for me to meet with the Jewish community and with the U.S. communications media. We felt a general sympathy and understanding for Israel in all circles of the U.S. public. This is one of the finest hours in Israeli-U.S. relations.

In the framework of my meetings with the Jewish community, I convened a rally dedicated to immigration to Israel. During this rally, I emphasized that the major task facing the Jewish people in the diaspora and the State of Israel is to bring about the immigration of hundreds of thousands of Jews to Israel in the coming years, in order to strengthen Israel and also in order to rescue the Jewish people from the jaws of assimilation.

In sum, I believe we have room for satisfaction about the attitude demonstrated toward Israel and its problems by the U.S. leaders. I hope that with their help we will overcome all difficulties we are facing, both the security-political ones and the economic ones. There is a great deal of work ahead of us indeed [break in transmission by the radio]. Serious work will be done in Washington in the coming period on all those issues we have discussed, and I hope we will achieve satisfactory results which will promote our interests.

Shamir News Conference

TA020824 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0713 GMT 2 Dec 83

[News conference with Prime Minister Shamir and correspondents at Ben-Gurion Airport following Shamir's return from United States — live]

[Text] [Frankel] Mr Prime Minister, it seems that, according to the reports at least — and also following what you are saying, sir — that the economic issue, and maybe even the military cooperation issue dominated your talks in Washington. I would like to ask: What about the political plane, and especially the matter of Lebanon? It seems that you, sir, as well as President Reagan, repeated your desire to see Syria leave Lebanon; you repeated your support for the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Is it possible, following the visit, to point to a new plan by the United States

and Israel to resolve the question of Lebanon and the evacuation of the Syrians; or is the permanent formula of support for the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, which is not a new solution, being repeated?

[Shamir] I do not have to say that much time and attention were devoted to the subject of Lebanon. There are aims and goals in Lebanon common to Israel and Lebanon. And therefore, one of the main duties of this political-military team of which I spoke will be to find solutions to the problems arising in Lebanon. This committee, this team, will begin its work in early January. Until then ideas and plans will be formulated, and both countries will work together in order to prevent aggression and achieve a quick solution which both Israel and the United States are interested in.

[Frankel] Does this solution bypass the Israeli-Lebanese agreement signed on 17 May?

[Shamir] The Israeli-Lebanese agreement is the basis of Israeli and U.S. policy in Lebanon.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, with your permission two short questions. The first question: U.S. sources reported this morning that in the United States you discussed a unilateral withdrawal by Israel, an additional withdrawal in Lebanon. What is your stand on this issue?

And the second question: You were quoted in the United States as saying that Israel has no nuclear weapons. It seems to me to be the first time that an Israeli prime minister has said that Israel has no nuclear weapons. What was the reason for this statement? Is there another thought behind this?

[Shamir] As for the first question: We did not discuss a unilateral wit..drawal from Lebanon. There are various rumors on this subject. However, it is clear that both the United States and Israel would like to create a situation in Lebanon which will not demand a military presence by either the United States or Israel. As for my answer regarding nuclear weapons: It was in the framework of a long-standing Israeli policy. I said we have no nuclear weapons, and therefore we will not be the first to bring them into the Middle East.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime MInister, acting Prime Minister David Levi expressed anger this morning because neither he nor any other ministers and senior officials had received reports on your visit to Washington. This is a precedent. What was the reason for it?

[Shamir] If there is need for it, I will discuss this in the Cabinet.

[Marcelle Sagiv] Mr Prime Minister, did you express yourself in Washington in regard to Israeli-Egyptian relations and suggest taking economic steps against Egypt so that it will return to improving its relations with Israel?

[Shamir] I described the relations, the condition of relations between Israel and the United States [as heard] and I asked the U.S. Cabinet and Congress to work against the violations of the clauses in the Israeli-Egyptian treaty, because the United States is a very serious partner to the Camp David accords, and therefore has a certain responsibility.

[Marcelle Sagiv] Mr Prime Minister, you discussed U.S.- Israeli coordination regarding Syria's attitudes and its reliance on the Soviet Union. What are the joint steps that will be taken?

[Shamir] It is true we discussed the massive Soviet intervention in Syria, and Syrian aggressive intentions in the region, and this as well will be discussed by the team that we decided to form.

[Frankel] Mr Prime Minister, is there no danger, no fear, that too close cooperation with the United States will limit, in the end, Israel's freedom of movement?

[Shamir] When there is no cooperation there are complaints that Israel is isolated. I think that this a great axiom of Israel's policy, in its security struggle, the need for cooperation and coordination with the United States.

I said once that in the whole world there are organizations of countries which most of the world's countries take part in. There is almost no country in the world that is not a member of some organized group, be it NATO, the OAU, the Organization of American States, the Warsaw Pact, or ASEAN. It is difficult, in today's world, for a country to stand alone in facing difficult and complicated problems. Israel is one of the few countries in the world not belonging to any group of countries. And our cooperation with the United States is one of the main supporting pillars of our political and military strength.

Shamir Comments 1 December

TA012048 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 2010 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpts] In a special interview to the television newsreel, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that the economic aid which the United States will grant Israel this year will be much larger than the sums of money we received in the past. Regarding political relations between Israel and the United States, the prime minister says that the coordination achieved during the talks between Jerusalem and Washington will deter the Syrians in Lebanon. Our correspondent Elimelekh Ram talked to Shamir today in New York and reports on the conclusion of Shamir's visit to the United States:

[Begin videotape] [Ram] In a few hours, the prime minister will leave for his trip back to Israel. Prior to his departure, we asked Mr Shamir a few questions about his talks with the U.S. President and the U.S. Administration leaders. The first question sought a reaction to remarks made by the former Israeli ambassador to the United States Simha Dinitz on television yesterday.

[Shamir] I do not want to advertise my merchandise, but I can inform the Israeli public that a lot of things have been achieved, not only the committees, but in matters of security, aid, and the economy.

[Ram] Let us try to get a little detail. As for the sphere of aid, can you point today to final agreements? Specifically, what is the sum of security aid? What is the percentage of the grant in the overall security aid, for instance?

[Shamir] I cannot yet say anything final since deliberations are still underway, discussions are being held these very hours. However, I can confidently state that from the viewpoint of security aid we will receive more than we expected, since there has been a change in this sphere. There was a redistribution of the percentage of loans and grants. We received almost all the aid in this sphere as a grant. We will, in short, receive a larger grant than was expected.

[Ram] Finally, Mr Prime Minister, a question which preoccupies us in Israel as well as here, were we asked [nitbaqashnu] by the Americans, or do you estimate that we may be asked [lehitbaqesh] by the Americans to handle the removal of the Syrians from Lebanon so that the U.S. Marines can return home as soon as possible?

[Shamir] There is confusion around a number of issues here. We were not asked [hitbaqashnu]. The matter was not raised at all. It was decided, agreed upon, to organize or set up a framework for the coordination of plans and activities between the United States and Israel in all matters which concern the Lebanese issue. Deliberations will be held in this framework and each party will decide according to its own interests, while at the same time, making an effort at coordination.

[Ram] Does coordination also mean the coordination of operational activity in the area?

[Shamir] This may be under consideration. It depends on which framework and under what limits it will be done. In any event, to the question you posed, I do not imagine that this will reach the stage of deliberations.

[Ram] If, God forbid, we were involved in a war with Syria, what would prompt this kind of coordination to take place?

[Shamir] Well, a Syrian attack.

[Ram] In other words, a Syrian refusal to pull out of Lebanon will not bring about an Israeli operation, will it?

[Shamir] Look, we assume that Israeli-U.S. coordination will deter Syria from any offensive tendencies, period. [end videotape]

Arens Returns 1 December, Comments on Visit

TA011452 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1447 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens returned from his U.S. trip a short while ago. In a CBS interview in New York, the prime minister summed up his U.S. visit by saying: The visit was satisfactory and successful. Shamir said ways were found to strengthen the cooperation between Israel and the United States, and that this will contribute to peace and stability in the Middle East.

On arrival, Minister Arens said: The reception we were accorded in the United States was warm, impressive, and friendly. According to Arens, the meetings the two held in the United States constitute a positive turning point in Israeli-U.S. relations. The defense minister said that U.S. Administration officials did not demand [darshu] that Israel pay any price for the coordination of moves and the cooperation with the United States.

Arens Remarks on Nabulus

TA011514 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The defense minister returned home from the United States this afternoon. He says that the establishment of the joint Israeli-U.S. political-military committee heralds stronger cooperation on a wide variety of issues. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports from Ben-Gurion airport:

[Tal — live] The defense minister says he hopes that the U.S. visit will be a favorable turning point in the relations between the two countries. He denies that Israel presented a position paper in the United States whereby it is prepared for a unilateral withdrawal in Lebanon. He also says that no Israeli proposal has been raised regarding dividing Lebanon into cantons.

The defense minister says that Israel has been permitted to use some of the U.S. aid funds for the development of the Lavi aircraft. However, according to Arens, it is not expected that in return for tight cooperation and the anticipated coordination of positions, Israel will pay with a restriction of its independent activity or its political-security maneuvering room. We asked Minister Arens if he agreed to the statement made by his replacement during his absence, Minister Mordekhay Tzipori, to the effect that the presence of settlers in Joseph's Tomb in Nabulus is illegal. The defense minister said: My opinion is the same as Tzipori's.

[Begin Arens recording] Anything that was done by my replacement, Minister Tzipori, during my absence from Israel is acceptable to me. I uphold all his moves and decisions. As for those people who are present at the Joseph's Tomb area, I understand that their presence there today is illegal, and this issue will be treated accordingly. [end recording]

Arens Summarizes U.S. Talks

TA011606 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Report by military correspondent 'Arad Nir on comments made by Defense Minister Moshe Arens at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return to Israel "a short while ago" — recorded]

[Text] [Arens] I returned a day before the prime minister, and you will surely hear a full report from the prime minister when he returns tomorrow. We conducted talks and meetings with the U.S. Administration officials for 2 days. We were accorded a nice, impressive, hearty, and friendly reception. I will try to sum up the talks we held. I think these talks may constitute a favorable turning point in Israeli-U.S. relations. In the past it was customary, and justly so, to say that there is considerable identity between the interests and goals of the United States and Israel in the Middle East. However, we often had differences of opinion

regarding strategy, regarding the measures which should be adopted in order to promote these interests.

In these meetings in Washington, the atmosphere and the conclusion was that it is necessary to coordinate positions, that it is necessary to coordinate policy with the intention of promoting common interests. I hope that in the wake of these meetings, and in the wake of other meetings to be held in future, the United States and Israel will indeed embark on the road of coordination of positions, and coordination of policy, in order to achieve our common interests.

[Nir] The defense minister emphasized that in the course of the talks, no demand [derisha] was made for Israel to pay any price for the cooperation and coordination agreed upon. He emphasized in this context that the U.S. Administration did not raise any request [baqasha] for a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon. As for the Lavi issue, Arens emphasized that the agreements reached are even more satisfactory than expected in Israel before Shamir and Arens travelled to the United States.

[Arens] I think that the degree of cooperation and support we gained from the Americans on the issue of developing an Israeli fighter plane, when it is known that part of the U.S. aeronautics industry was not exactly enthusiastic about this project, is very large. I believe the degree of cooperation and support we received on this was more than could be expected. I would admit that this was even a little more than I expected myself. For some time now, we have had the U.S. Administration's approval to place orders in the United States for developing various important systems for the plane. As a result of a Congressional decision, we have recently been allowed to use the U.S. aid funds for development and production work for the aircraft's systems in the United States. Most importantly, we were permitted to use $250 million of the aid funds for developing the Lavi in Israel. During our stay there, the President ratified this Congressional decision and told us he supports it.

Differences With U.S. on Aid Funds Reported

TA011417 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Dec 83 p 1

["Exclusive" Report by U.S. correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] Washington — The differences of opinion between the United States and Israel regarding the amount and composition of the direct military aid Israel will receive in 1985 derive, inter alia, from U.S. reservations about the extent to which aid money was exploited in the past, and on the extent of the obligations Israel has taken upon itself for next year.

The United States contends that Israel is not in need of direct military aid to the tune of $1.7 billion — as has been requested by Israel — because part of the funds received by Israel in the past have not been fully exhausted, and because Israel's commitments on arms purchases in the coming year are smaller by about $500 million than the amount requested. Israel disagrees with these contentions. Discussions on this issue continued yesterday.

Levi 'Furious' at Not Receiving Reports

TA020610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The acting prime minister is furious because Yitzhaq Shamir and Moshe Arens did not send any reports to Jerusalem about their talks in Washington and their consequences. In response to a question by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, David Levi said it is not a personal affront but a violation of regulations and a lack of statesmanship.

Our correspondent has learned that last night David Levi refused to accept a cable which arrived from Washington. The cable contained no information on talks with the U.S. Administration but was a report on a Congressional meeting and summaries of articles about the visit published in the United States. The acting foreign minister and the Foreign Ministry director general confirmed that they had not received any reports on the Washington talks and no official reports about the visit were sent to the deputy foreign minister and the Cabinet secretary as well.

Ben-Eli'ezer To Hold December Talks in U.S.

TA011133 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Dec 83 p 1

["Exclusive report from Washington by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] Washington — Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, the coordinator of activities in the administered territories, will go to the United States this month to discuss improving the standard of living of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza residents. This was learned by the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent.

In talks held this week in Washington, the Americans spent a great deal of time discussing the standard of living of the territories' residents. They presented the Israeli delegation with facts on the economic and cultural situation of the territories' residents and claimed that it can be improved.

They gave examples of industrial and commercial development possibilities in the territories and stressed that their intention is humanitarian and is not intended to change the political situation in the territories.

The Israelis reacted favorably to the U.S. proposals for economic advancements in certain areas in the territories, but warned against using funds originating from the PLO for these these purposes. It was decided that Ben-Eli'ezer will meet State Department officials in order to discuss the U.S. proposals.

In a speech at the National Press Club, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that the United States thinks Jews have a right to live anywhere in Eretz Yisra'el — including Judaea and Samaria. According to him the government undertook to discuss the political status of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza and is faithful to this undertaking. Israel would like to renew the negotiations over the future of the territories and achieve a reasonable solution, he said.

Press on Shamir, Arens Visit to U.S.
TA011033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* says that based on the reports from Washington it is clear that the talks of the prime minister and the defense minister with U.S. Administration leaders did not end the pressure on Israel to stop the establishment of settlements in the territories. However, Prime Minister Shamir and Defense Minister Arens attained important achievements in economic areas: an increase in economic aid, an end to the embargo on cluster bombs, and an end to customs duties. Also important is the agreement to cooperate in political and strategic matters. All in all, following the talks in Washington, Israel is stronger than it was before.

MA'ARIV says that experience teaches us that the enthusiasm over the visit's achievements must be curbed. The principles must be translated into action, and there may be obstacles on the way toward their fulfillment. However, there is great importance in the fact that the U.S. Administration is showing the will to stand by Israel and help it overcome the economic crisis. The common interests agreed upon can be the basis for political and strategic cooperation.

Nabulus Settlers React to Arens Remarks
TA011718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The settlers at Joseph's Tomb in Nabulus say that if the IDF demands that they leave, they will do so and will not compel the soldiers to evacuate them. They nevertheless expressed surprise at the defense minister's position that their stay at the tomb is illegal. According to them, Minister Arens said once that there is no illegal stay in Eretz Yisra'el.

The Peace Now movement has been permitted to demonstrate against the settlement at Joseph's Tomb. On this, the settlers said they do not intend to set up a subversive settlement at the site, and they are confident that in due course a government-approved settlement will be set up there.

Area Village Leagues Resume Activities
TA011354 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Dec 83 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The area Village Leagues in the West Bank have renewed their political activity lately. In the town of Haris in the Tulkarm region an assembly called on King Husayn to join the political process. A similar assembly will take place in about a week in Bayt Awla in the Hebron hills.

The management of the area Village Leagues will convene in about 1 week in order to pick a new chairman to replace Mustafa Dudin. It is expected that Jamil al-'Amlah, head of the ad hoc committee in Hebron, will be chosen. The Village League's mouthpiece *AL-MIR'A* has begun to promote Jamil al-'Amlah in its last few issues. The present chairman is Jawdat Sawalihah, chairman of the Nabulus area Village League, who refuses to give up his stronghold in Nabulus in order to devote himself to the League's interests.

Poll Shows West Bank Support for 'Arafat
TA020847 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Dec 83 p 3

[Report by David Richardson]

[Text] Ninety-four percent of the respondents to a recent opinion poll conducted among Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip support the continued leadership of Yasir 'Arafat as Palestine Liberation Organization chairman.

This is a slight increase in support for him from a previous poll conducted by the East Jerusalem magazine *AL-BAYRDR AS-SIYASI* last June.

The latest poll was taken during the last week of November and encompassed 1,184 respondents, one-third of them from Gaza. It is the largest number of respondents ever to participate in an opinion poll of this nature. The results are to appear in tomorrow's edition of the magazine which has consistently adopted a pro-'Arafat editorial line.

In addition to examining support for 'Arafat, the poll examined:

— Support for a Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue: 70 percent for, 25 percent against.

— Support for a Palestinian-Egyptian dialogue: 62 percent for, 30 percent against (In June, 55 percent for, 37 percent against).

— Support for an amalgamation of UN Resolution 242 and President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace initiative — 43 percent for, 47 percent against.

— Support for contacts with "Israeli peace forces" - 58 percent for, 32 percent against.

Israel-Chile Joint Communique Published
TA011215 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 30 Nov 83

[Israeli-Chilean joint communique issued by Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem on 30 November 1983]

[Text] Upon the invitation of His Excellency Yitzhaq Shamir, prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the State of Israel, His Excellency Dr Miguel Schweitzer Walters, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Chile, paid an official visit to the State of Israel from 27 to 30 November 1983.

The Chilean minister was accompanied by the following personages:

General Nilo Alfredo Floody Buxton, ambassador of Chile in Israel;

Ambassador Andres Concha, director-general of international economic relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

Minister-Counsellor Oscar Fuentes, director of bilateral policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

Minister-Counsellor Carlos Ducci, chief of the foreign minister's bureau.

During the visit, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Chile, and the minister of justice and acting minister of foreign affairs fo the State of Israel, His Excellency Mr Moshe Nisim, exchanged views on matters of mutual interest, including global and regional questions.

On international affairs, both leaders reiterated their commitment to adhere to the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, particularly with respect to the necessity of maintaining solidarity among peoples and the realization of world stability and peace.

Within this context, the ministers had a constructive exchange of views in Middle East issues as to how a comprehensive settlement in the region should be achieved. Similar attention was given to Latin American affairs, in particular the recent events in the Caribbean and Central American region.

The two sides expressed the hope that the traditionally cordial relations between the State of Israel and the Republic of Chile would be further strengthened. As a result of detailed and fruitful talks between the ministers and officials, as well as senior representatives of the business sectors of Chile and Israel, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Chile and the minister of justice and acting foreign minister of the State of Israel have decided to increase economic and technical cooperation in various fields such as research and development of arid zones, agricultural development and irrigation. Both sides emphasized the importance of increasing the volume of trade between the two countries and agreed to do their utmost in achieving this objective.

The minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Chile expressed his sincere appreciation for the warm reception and hospitality tendered to him and his party by the government and people of Israel.

He reiterated the standing invitation to the prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Yitzhaq Shamir, and invited Deputy Prime Minister Mr David Levi, Minister of Justice Mr Moshe Nisim and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Yehuda Ben-Me'ir to visit the Republic of Chile at their earliest convenience. The invitations were accepted and it was agreed that the dates of the visits will be arranged through diplomatic channels.

Ansar Camp To Remain 'in Operating Condition'
TA010849 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] The Israel Defence Forces is continuing to maintain the Ansar prison camp in operating condition, despite the fact that all inmates have been released.

A review of the camp's first 18 months shows that seven escape tunnels were built by prisoners, and that 10 inmates died.

Several weeks ago, the IDF tried to release 27 Egyptian nationals, but Egypt refused to accept them. The men eventually were released with the other prisoners last week.

Fewer People Crossing Border With Lebanon
TA011237 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Dec p 3

[Report by Nadav Shragay]

[Excerpt] In November the number of people crossing the Israel-Lebanon border dropped considerably, decreasing by several dozen people each day. During the period between 1 August 1982 and the end of October 1983, 152,600 people crossed the border in both directions. This sizable decrease is explained by the internal tension in Lebanon, and by the stepped up security measures that have been taken. The IDF is aiming to hand over supervision of border crossings to civilians. This will save manpower and relieve the IDF of dealing with problems not of a purely military nature.

Briefs

Japanese, Liberian Ambassadors — President Hayim Herzog yesterday accepted the letters of credence of the new ambassadors of Japan and Liberia in separate ceremonies at Bet Hanasi. Ambassador Shozo Kadota, 58, has been in the Japanese foreign service for 30 years. He graduated from Tokyo University and studied at Swarthmore College in the U.S. He has represented Japan at the UN and served as minister of the Japanese Embassy in London. Samuel Pearson, the new Liberian ambassador, is a former minister of defence of his country and a long-time friend of Liberian President Samuel Doe. He is the first ambassador of his country to Israel since relations were renewed his year. [Excerpt] [Jerusalem *THE JERUSALEM POST* in English 1 Dec 83, p 1 TA]

Supreme Court Appointments — Justice Me'ir Shamgar, 58, was installed on 27 November 1983 as president of the Supreme Court, replacing outgoing President Yitzhaq Kahan. Miryam Ben-Porat, 65, was installed as new deputy president of the Supreme Court on the same occasion. [Excerpt][Jerusalem *THE JERUSALEM POST* in English 28 Nov 83 p 3 TA]

Mengistu Reaffirms OAU Solidarity With Palestinians
LD292156 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] In his capacity as current OAU chairman, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia today reaffirmed Africa's solidarity with the peoples of Palestine and unwavering commitment to the search for a just comprehensive and lasting solution to the question of Palestine.

Comrade Mengistu conveyed the message to the committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people atthe United Nations, where the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people was observed today. He noted that the commemoration was another manifestation of the ever-growing determination of the international community to seek a new and urgent solution to the just cause of the Palestinian people.

Comrade Mengistu described the attempt to get rid of the Palestinian factor in the Middle East as a grave threat to the rightful cause of the Palestinian people. He urged the international community to bring its pressure to bear on protagonists to put an end to the present grave and tragic situation as regards the Palestinian revolution.

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B Denounces 'Conspiracy' Against PLO

PM011558 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 25-26 Nov 83 p 1

[Editorial: "The Final Say Belongs to the Palestinian People"]

[Excerpts] Since its inception, Israel has persistently and continuously sought to create secondary problems in the region for the purpose of distracting attention from the principal issue — the Palestinian people's right to return to their land and establish their own independent state. All its efforts have been and are still directed toward preventing the Palestinians from exercising this right, and diverting world opinion from this matter.

It appears that Israel has now found some people among the Arabs themselves who are sparing it this effort and are prepared to act on its behalf in fighting the Palestinian revolution and squandering its resources.

What is happening now in northern Lebanon is a secondary Palestinian Arab problem created by those who have placed themselves at the service of the Zionists in the latter's objective of smashing the Palestinian fighters. What do these people want?

What is happening in Lebanon is, in fact, an international conspiracy in which some Arab parties are participating with the aim of destroying the last position of the Palestinian revolution and wiping out the PLO and its legitimate leadership. This would, in turn, pave the way for a U.S. settlement which others are willing to accept. This is suggested by their open and secret contacts with the United States, and by their reception of its envoys.

It has been proven to the United States and to those who deal with it that the PLO and its legitimate leadership form a difficult stumbling block which hinders U.S. plans for a settlement. For this reason, removing the PLO from their path has become the strategic objective of all enemies of the revolution and its legitimate leadership. They believe that sowing sedition and creating rifts in the Palestinian ranks will help get rid of the Palestinian gun upon which the PLO relies in its all-out political struggle.

The sedition created by the enemy and other malicious forces in northern Lebanon has led Shimon Peres to believe that the PLO is finished. However, the long and fateful battles of the people cannot be affected by orchestrated or transient events, even those on the scale of the tragic and bloody incidents in Tripoli.

The conspiracy against the Palestinian people, the aim of which is to uproot them from their land, is still in progress. This conspiracy has developed over time and assumed various forms. On some occasions, it takes the form of creating secondary problems for the purpose of diverting attention from the essence of the Arab-Zionist conflict. At other times, it finds expression in attempts to create rifts within the Palestinian ranks. It may also be seen in attempts to expel the Palestinians from their homeland and disperse them in far-away places.

But the final say will always go to the Palestinian people, as they are the ones who know how to preserve their identity and integrity, and protect their gains, regardless of the number of conspiracies against their just cause.

LIBYA

Romanian Delegation Arrives 30 November

LD301734 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, 30 Nov (JANA) — Ion Stanescu, Romanian minister and chairman of the Foreign Construction Department, accompanied by a delegation, arrived in Tripoli this morning on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Ministers Receive Stanescu

LD012152 Tripoli JANA in English 1822 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Tripoli, Safar 26, Dec 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Eng. Muhammad 'Ubayd ash-Shukri, secretary of public utilities and acting secretary of housing, met today in the morning with the Romanian minister head of the department of constructions abroad, Ion Stanescu who is currently on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. The meeting focused on cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Romania and on ways and means to develop it in the interest of the two sisterly nations.

Ibrahim al-Faqih Hassan, secretary of social security today at noon met with the Romanian minister head of the department of constructions abroad, Ion Stanescu and his accompanying delegation. The meeting focused on development of cooperation between the two sisterly nations.

MOROCCO

Correction to Hassan's Cabinet Address

The following corrections pertain to the item headlined "King Addresses New Cabinet," published in the 1 December Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page Q 3:

The name of the justice minister should read: Moulay Mustapha Belarbi Alaoui

The name of the information minister should read: Abdellatif Filali

SUDAN

Numayri Addresses Embassy Staff in U.S.

JN011304 Khartoum SUNA in English 1000 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Washington, 1 Dec (SUNA) — The Islamic changes have made us resort to Islam as a source of legislation President of the Republic Ja'far M. Numayri said here. The president in a statement before the staff of the Sudanese Embassy here voiced that these Islamic changes have not came abruptly but as gradual

consequences that were not dictated by foreign pressure but was a sheer Sudanese work. The president told the staff that these changes have impressive implications and characteristics mainly the process of rallying the whole people in thoroughly cooperation as Islam aspire.

The president disclosed that some reckoning that Islam is against other religions although it will not be fully accomplished as a creed unless it recognized the other religions.

Once it believed in fundamental principles Sudan will endeavour by no means to attain its objectives and conclusively the Islamic legislations will lead us to the pursuit of the real spirit of Islam which is capable to catch up with progress of the contemporary era, the president went on.

Numayri admitted that new visions will be introduced and gradual changes will touch the institutions and hierarchies of the political and executive bodies.

The introducing of the Moslems laws was been encountered by malicious attempts of casting doubts and intimidation of some sectors of the society particularly woman.

In his speech to the Sudan's Embassy staff to the U.S., President Numayri said that people outside the Sudan, realized and appreciated the decision taken on this matter. On this regard President Numayri referred to his meeting with Pope John Paul II of Vatican who expressed welcome and understanding of measures taken for the prohibition of liquor, adultery and vices.

On the economic side President Numayri said that steps on Islamic economic work are gradually developed where the first Islamic bank in the world had been established in Sudan (Faysal Islamic Bank) as usury been prohibited in some banks before 2 years and that in the context of gradual planning that could not effected on the country's development operation or our relations with other countries. [sentence as received]

Numayri explained that the Sudan's trend in the economic work would be represented on granting freedom to the collective institutions and figures in the economic work, refering in this regard to the experiment of Faysal Islamic Bank on participating the minor craftsmen as a successful one.

President Numayri in his speech yesterday affirmed that no body could monopolize Islam.

Armed Forces realized the necessity of changing the Armed Forces Law to cope with the general trend in becoming the defender of Islam.

Sudan's Ambassador to the U.S. 'Umar Salah 'Isa addressed the meeting welcomed Numayri's visit to the embassy.

Cypriot Envoy Arrives With Message for Numayri

JN011217 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA) — An envoy of Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou arrived here yesterday.

The envoy, (F.A. Grammonopoules) said he was carrying a message from Cypriot president to President Numayri to seek the support of Sudan to help us in stopping the Turkish occupation of Cyprus. He said the Turkish military forces declared that part as an independent state on Nov 15.

Mr (Grammonopoules) said Cyprus has obtained a U.N. Security Council resolution on Turkish withdrawal. Turkish action was also very strongly condemned by the Commonwealth summit held in New Delhi, India, Nov 23.

The Cypriot envoy also plans to visit Djibouti and Somalia.

Received by Foreign Minister

JN011842 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak has received Mr (Grammonopoules), an envoy of Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou. The envoy gave Mubarak a message addressed to President Numayri from President Kiprianou dealing with the situation on Cyprus.

The Cypriot envoy arrived in Khartoum last night, and will leave tomorrow for Djibouti and Somalia on a similar mission.

General at-Tayyib on Activities of 'Dissidents'

PM301712 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Nov 83 pp 1,4

[Interview with Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, Sudanese first vice president and head of state security; by Muhammad Ahmad Hisham in Khartoum — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Developments of great importance have occurred in southern Sudan over the past few days. When did the first indications of these developments appear?

Answer: They actually appeared a long time ago, and we have been following them ever since. In fact, signs of these developments began to appear following the August 1981 [Ethiopian-Libyan-PDRY] summit in Aden. We felt that a regional strategy was being developed for the purpose of undermining the strong relations that had rapidly begun to develop between Sudan and Ethiopia. We pointed this out to the brother Ethiopians.

It is worth noting that Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam personally agreed with me that our enemies would not leave us alone, and this strategy had recently been activated in southern Sudan.

Question: Why southern Sudan in particular?

Answer: Southern Sudan started to become the focus after many attempts in the north had failed. As you learned from the statement issued by the minister of information, they began concentrating on southern Sudan under the assumption that, for many reasons, the south is a weak point in our national security or strategy. As you know, they began to exploit the people there and the movement known as Anyanya Two was formed. They

carried out armed robberies, stole the people's cattle, and attacked them. They also attacked trade caravans passing through the area.

Question: Has anyone been arrested or exposed?

Answer: Our security apparatus has been active; arms, ammunition, and explosives have been seized. We have also arrested several individuals and investigations are underway. They have given us a good deal of information without much difficulty. You will recall that during my visit to the south the week before last — which I made to open the People's Assembly in Bahr al-Ghazal — and during my visit to Raga in the western part of the area, and to Uwayl in the east, I learned from the security committee and the citizens that some 700 students from the Dinka tribe have been asked to go to Ethiopia to study. The majority of these young people were actually destined for a training camp in return for generous material rewards. On the basis of this information, the security forces intercepted these students, fortunately before they crossed the border. A number of documents, including letters and similar things, were found in their possession.

Question: How did you react to this?

Answer: These Ethiopian actions are a source of anger to us, because we were working with sincere intentions and were trying to help them resolve their problems. I wrote to them expressing my regret that a friendly neighboring state should embark on such hostile action, and I warned them against playing with fire. I realize that Libya and the Soviet Union are behind them.

Question: What is the current security and political situation in the disturbed area?

Answer: The fact of the matter, frankly speaking, is that there are camps or pockets in the (Shadu) area, a zone of rough terrain surrounded by water in Bahr al-Ghazal Province. Despite the recent rainy season, the Sudanese Armed Forces have been able to carry out major operations which have put a stop to the activities of the dissidents, broken their back, and begun to provide real protection to the citizens. But we must not forget that a considerable amount of supplies and military training are being provided by Ethiopia.

For some reason Libya is busily involved in this plan. It has mobilized all hostile elements, some of which are not even Sudanese but are mercenaries from Cameroon, Chad, and Central Africa. I would now like to reveal the fact that while the Libyan forces were in Chad, there was a plan to detach the western Sudanese province of Darfur, declare a government there, and await aid from Libya. However, we took swift diplomatic action and the problem ended with the departure of Libyan forces from Chad. This plan is once again emerging in eastern Sudan. This time, however, the goal is to achieve the secession of Nasir and Akobo-Malwal and establish a government there as a prelude to future moves.

Question: How large are these groups?

Answer: According to the information available to us, they have actually become thousands. It is enough to recall the 700 students [who intended to go to Ethiopia]. Much the same thing is happening with Libya — Sudanese are lured there by job opportunities and then find themselves in training camps. All those arrested admit the same thing — that they did not intend to enroll in the hostile camps, but were forced to do so.

Question: What about those people who have been exposed?

Answer: I would like to say that these are communist movements. We know that roughly 22 southerners were taken to Ethiopia in 1980 to be trained as communist cadres. According to our information, some 7,000 southerners have graduated thus far, entered Sudan, and begun operating there. The recent disturbances confirm this, as does the fact that John Garang, a veteran communist, went to Ethiopia a short while ago. It must be noted at this point that the southern brothers do not see themselves as communists. As one of them told me: We know nothing except these cows, and we beg you to protect us from the communists.

Secondly, the dissidents sought to turn the issue into one of a dispute between the north and the south, but the Libyans rejected this idea and asked them to unite with the political opposition in the north. They lured them with money, giving them $6 million, 40 tons of arms, and some medical and radio communications equipment. They also have Cuban experts.

Question: Is there any relation between the dissidents and political opposition figures?

Answer: Yes. There have been contacts and coordination between them. This is evident in the fact that these incidents were timed. The two British citizens were kidnapped at about 0830, and at 1130 the same day, the French and the two Pakistanis were abducted in Jonglei. At 0430 the following morning there was an all-out attack on Malwal, and on the same day, a statement was issued in London by the opposition group headed by Ahmad Zayn al-'Abidin, which was reported by the Kuwaiti papers. The statement called for a political strike. This demonstrates the extent of coordination and joint action. We have recently been keeping track of the passage of men and equipment from Libya to Addis Ababa. Some special units were also transported a week or 10 days before the operation in order to participate in it.

We have additional information indicating that highly trained individuals have begun moving through various African capitals with the aim of diverting attention. Now that they have arrived in Central Africa, we notified our brothers there and drew their attention to the fact that these people are preparing to infiltrate into western Sudan and conduct sabotage in Khartoum. Their targets include the American Embassy, the offices of the Chevron Company, the Armed Forces General Command, and several water stations, all with the aim of creating panic and fear.

Their activities have been intensified with the realization that there are good signs of improvement on the horizon. I refer to the imminent implementation of the executive program, the work being done to produce oil by the end of 1985, and the completion of the digging of the Jonglei Canal in the same year.

Question: what is the connection between the recent disturbances and the question of the Islamic shari'ah?

Answer: They sought to exploit this question because it is a sensitive issue. They wanted to create some sort of a crusade, which is far from our mind. Logically, this is wrong, because, as I said, this is a communist plan which views Muslims and Christians in the same light. I met with the papal nuncio last week, and he supported my position. We Muslims and Christians are in the same boat. I believe that if the dissidents succeed they will set fire to churches before the mosques. The papal nuncio urged priests in the south to be more alert and told them that these provocations have nothing to do with religion.

Question: Are there any plans to strike at the camps inside Ethiopia?

Answer: We have no intention of carrying out a military operation against the camps inside Ethiopia. That would be against our principles. We are still working within the diplomatic and political framework. We adhere to this line and are moving carefully as we are not in a hurry. We have not even informed the OAU. We are not seeking to aggravate the situation, but if that is what they want, we certainly have friends who will stand beside us. I repeat that we have no intention of striking at the dissidents' camps inside Ethiopia, although we are aware of the areas and places where they train. We only ask that Ethiopia stop this action.

Question: To what extent will these developments affect security in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea?

Answer: Our geographic and strategic position has a great effect on security in the Red Sea-Horn of Africa region. Any lack of security between Sudan and Ethiopia will definitely affect the area, despite the fact that we have no desire to interfere in the affairs of others. But Ethiopia has now begun to interfere and it thinks it can do so indirectly, without showing its face. It is serving a strategy drawn up by others. This is unfortunate, and I fear that what is happening now will develop and involve us in the strategies of the superpowers. Just as Soviet strategy is operating in this field, so is U.S. strategy. I repeat my warning to the Ethiopians against playing with fire, for they themselves will be the victim in this case.

Party Committee Endorses Security Measures

EA012350 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] The Regular Forces Committee of the Sudanese Socialist Union's central leadership has released a message to the Sudanese nation concerning the Malwal incidents. In its declaration, the committee repeated its firm support for the punitive security measures carried out by our People's Armed Forces against those outlaws who are lying in wait for Sudan's security forces in our dear south [as heard].

The committee also appealed to the competent authorities and all relevent organizations to offer additional support to the People's Armed Forces, the police forces, and all regular units in a manner which will enable them to discharge their duties effectively and efficiently.

It also called on the loyal masses to be vigilant and to forge more links with the security forces so that together they might constitute an insurmountable barrier to the conspiracies launched by the traitors and the spiteful.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Holds Talks With Libya's Jallud 1 Dec

EA012105 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Provisional Military Administrative Council and COPWE chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, this afternoon held talks with Brother Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud. At a ceremony held at the comrade chairman's special office in the COPWE Central Committee office our comrade revolutionary leader and Brother Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, discussed bilateral issues.

SOMALIA

Iraqi Deputy Oil Minister Arrives on 4-Day Visit

EA012145 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Iraq's first deputy oil minister, Mr 'Abd al-Mun'im Hasan, and his delegation arrived at Mogadishu International Airport this afternoon for a 4-day official visit to the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR]. The deputy minister told SONNA reporters that his visit will continue the talks between the SDR Ministry of Industry and the Iraqi Oil Ministry aimed at expanding and resolving some of the problems facing the oil refinery at Jasiira, jointly established and administered by Somalia and Iraq.

Mr 'Abd al-Mun'im Hasan also said that he is to hold talks with senior Somali Government officials, in particular the heads [as heard] of the Ministry of industry. The Iraqi deputy minister said that the issues on the agenda include the current problems facing the oil refinery.

Mr 'Abd al-Mun'im Hasan added that the Somali and Iraqi Governments are eager to implement the desired goals of the refinery which aims to make Somalia self-sufficient in refined oil.

Radio Halgan: DFSS Claims 94 Somali Troops Killed

EA012014 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] At least 94 loyalist troops of the Barre regime have been killed and over 100 others wounded in an engagement between the Barre loyalist troops and the fighters of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] wing of the Somali opposition forces between Cabuud Waaq and Gellingsoor districts.

Reports reaching us from the DFSS 9th General Aynanshe Division say that the loyalist Barre troops lost 20 automatic field guns, 64 AK automatic rifles, and 12 antitank guns. Assorted light rifles were captured and three vehicles were destroyed. In this latest engagement, the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces lost 11 martyrs and 19 fighters were wounded.

Detailed reports on the engagement say that the clashes took place when the loyalist Barre forces attacked the civilian population in the area and the DFSS units went to the aid of the general public who were being oppressed by the loyalist troops of fascist Barre.

TANZANIA

Cooperation Talks With Kenya Open in Arusha

EA012109 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Arusha — Senior officials from Kenya and Tanzania began a 3-day meeting in Arusha today to discuss bilateral cooperation in trade, communications, and tourism. The principal secretary in the president's office, Timothy Apiyo, is leading a 29-member delegation. Kenya is represented by a 30-member delegation led by the permanent secretary to the Ministry of Transport and Communications, Mr Githuku. The meeting is to set up three working technical committees composed of experts in transport and communications, trade, and tourism.

Ndugu Apiyo told reporters today that five Tanzanian cabinet ministers, led by the minister for transport and communications, Ndugu Malecela, will join the Tanzanian delegation over the weekend. The Kenyan side will also be joined by five cabinet ministers led by the minister for transport and communications, Mr Kosgey.

This is the second meeting between the two countries since the border was declared open 2 weeks ago. The last meeting was attended by leaders of six regions of Tanzania and four provinces of Kenya. During the meeting, a 10 point agenda on trade and communications cooperation was adopted.

When President Nyerere declared the border open last month, he said Kenya could use Tanzania's ports and railway facilities for her transit trade.

CAMEROON

Yaounde Reports Biya Press Conference on Election

AB011230 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] During the press conference he granted yesterday to the national press, head of state President Biya answered several questions of interest to local and international opinion. They included questions relating to the forthcoming early presidential election, the dissolution of the National Assembly, the Cameroonian national economy, possible measures following the inquiry into the plot against state security, and the reorganization of the national Armed Forces.

Concerning the early presidential elections, the head of state said that they would take place at the beginning of next year and that he would be a candidate. [Passage containing Biya recording indistinct] Asked whether the National Assembly will be dissolved, President Biya replied no. He specified that only an exceptional circumstance could result in the dissolution of the assembly. The president also enlightened public opinion concerning the National Assembly byelections that will increase the number of our parliamentarians from 120 to (?150). [Passage indistinct]

Referring to the Cameroonian national economy, President Biya said that compared with some other economies in the world, our national economy is relatively sound despite present difficulties. Our country, he said, is experiencing a 7 percent increase in its gross domestic product, self-sufficiency in food is a reality, the national budget is balanced, and there are salary increases every year. This is not the case everywhere now in the world. [Passage indistinct]

In answer to a question on the reorganization of our Armed Forces, President Biya said that this was being done due to a desire to adapt our organizations and that its purpose was to enable our troops to effectively ensure the mission entrusted to them. [Passage indistinct]

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Kolingba Speech Warns Against 'Adventurers'

AB020845 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0630 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The CAR people yesterday celebrated the 23d anniversary of the independence of their country. Listen to an excerpt of the speech made by President Andre Kolingba on this occasion:

[Begin Kolingba recording] In the search for national peace and concord, I have always spoken the language of unity and reconciliation. But some perfidious lost souls have always branded my approach as a sign of weakness. I must also warn you against the sordid appetites of those who bear the heavy responsibility for our country's regression since their underhanded maneuvers go against the deep aspirations of the CAR people. Since I am aware of the danger they represent, I will fail in my duty if I allow them to pursue their criminal enterprises. There is every indication that these mad and bloodthirsty adventurers, who will join with all forces of evils whose avowed aim is to perpetuate the nation's sufferings, are committed to oppose the country coming out of the abyss into which they plunged it. [end recording]

Notes Bokassa Attempted Return

AB011040 Paris AFP in French 0944 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Bangui, 1 Dec (AFP) — CAR head of state General Andre Kolingba has disclosed that all measures had been taken by the security agencies to destroy former Emperor Bokassa's plane if he had tried to return to the country.

Former Emperor Bokassa stated on Monday in Abidjan that he was prevented from returning to Bangui by Ivory Coast President Houphouet-Boigny.

In a nationwide message on radio and television on the occasion of national day, the head of state also outlined the measures for the country's economic and financial revival. Referring to the former emperor, he stated: Our heavy liabilities result from the behavior of the "shady person" and the "paranoid dictator," and he recalled Bokassa's role in the murders of children.

"We are having so many difficulties in meeting our current obligations and we have been forced to impose great sacrifices onto civil servants and the people, because that crook looted the public treasury and national enterprises, scared away serious-minded investors, and passed on to our country an intolerable public debt which we are obliged to pay now and for many more years."

General Kolingba stressed that the debt inherited from the previous government amounted to 80 billion CFA francs at the beginning of 1980, about three times the amount of the annual revenue of the state budget. Between 1960 and 1980, the Central African state received 205 billion CFA francs as donations and subventions, and 100 billion CFA francs as loans. This enormous debt will weigh heavily on the state budget for many years, but he said the state is coping with it.

To maintain an atmosphere of confidence with the international community, which he thinks is very vital, the Central African Government has, in fact, voted an amount of 10.6 billion CFA francs in the 1984 budget for the settling of external debts, and has provided for at least an equivalent amount for debt settlement for the next 6 years.

The Central African head of state also indicated that the CAR's economic recovery can be achieved with "a sincere appeal for the resources, the competence, and the initiative of foreign friends," whether they are governments, companies, or individual entrepreneurs.

Finally, President Kolingba warned all "criminals" who are racking their brains to plot and "to work out bloody plans against the Central African people." He also gave a strong warning to propagators of false news and dangerous rumors that create insecurity in the country.

CHAD

AFP: France Sent Mercenaries to Ndjamena in July

AB011810 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Paris, Dec 1 (AFP) — The French Government secretly recruited 32 mercenaries and sent them to Chad in July to help guard the capital Ndjamena from a Libyan-backed rebel attack, the weekly magazine *V.S.D.* reported today.

Each man was on a six-month contract, and paid 15,000 francs (about 2,000 dollars) monthly. The force was pulled back in September.

French journalists covering the Chad conflict reported the presence of several mercenaries, but few details were known about them.

A 37-year-old mercenary named "Alain" told *V.S.D.* that he and his colleagues were recruited secretly by the French Cooperation Ministry and flown to Ndjamena in a chartered transport plane at the beginning of July.

They fought at the oasis town of Faya-Largeau, capital of northern Chad, which was captured by rebel and Libyan troops, and were finally replaced by the arrival of French regular troops.

"Alain" alleged the force was commanded by Olivier Danet, and extreme right-winger who is the subject of international arrest warrants for allegedly killing six people in a 1977 coup attempt against the Government of Benin, and for supposedly having a hand in the Bologna, Italy, railway station bombing which killed 85 people in August 1980.

He allegedly went to Chad shortly after serving an 18-month jail sentence for arms smuggling between France and Belgium.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Madrid Envoy, Politicians on Alleged Coup Attempt

LD012327 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1945 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Luis Obiang Mengue, the ambassador of Equatorial Guinea in Madrid, has denied reports of a foiled coup d'etat in his country. In any event, instability and corruption are still a constant in the life of Equatorial Guinea. In both Malabo and Madrid the rumors about a foiled coup d'etat in Equatorial Guinea have been denied. The ambassador of Equatorial Guinea in Madrid:

[Begin Obiang Mengue recording] I have called this press conference to tell you publicly and officially in my capacity as the representative of Equatorial Guinea in the Kingdom of Spain that it is all untrue and all lies. [end recording]

This is how the rumors of a coup d'etat in Equatorial Guinea are seen by (Francisco Ela Eveme), secretary general of the Front for the Liberation of the Republic of Guinea:

[Begin (Ela Eveme) recording] We have already said that Teodoro [Obiang Nguema] was no longer the solution to, or way out of, the Guinean situation which he himself in the shadow of [former president] Macias helped to create. We said at the time that Teodoro would be a good imitation of Macias. Guided by the teaching of the political school of Macias, with the motto kill or be killed, we now see how Teodoro is following in the footsteps of his teacher Macias. Talk of coups d'etat is rife. [end recording]

Guinean Secretary of State Apolinar Moiche has been arrested for illegally granting passports. Here is the explanation given by the ambassador of Equatorial Guinea in Madrid:

[Begin Obiang Mengue recording] All that has happened is that the secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been dismissed and nothing more than this. [end recording]

(Severo Moto), the secretary general of the Progress Party and a member of the Guinean opposition in Madrid, gave us his view on the arrest of the secretary of state:

[Begin (Moto) recording] I know my country very well and I can say that this is an allegation that could perfectly well serve as justification for getting an official of such importance and standing as Apolinar Moiche out of the way. [end recording]

And what about the problem of Sergeant Miko? We do not even know if he is still alive.

[Begin (Moto) recording] I believe that all the Guinean people know what the true significance of Sgt Miko is when it comes to talking about the subject of Equatorial Guinea. It is not that you have to corroborate a series of things or agreements between one administration and another, but that the people of Equatorial Guinea do not see Sgt Miko as a problem, (?basically) because since the documents do not exist which give proof that Sgt Miko is still alive — as a result of commitments between the two governments that have not existed either — the situation of Equatorial Guinea goes beyond the subject of Sgt Miko. [end recording]

BENIN

Kerekou Urges Unity To Combat 'Sabotage'

AB011150 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Excerpts] President Kerekou's message to the nation yesterday [the 11th anniversary of his regime] was devoted largely to an analysis of the international economic situation. The president placed special emphasis on statistical data relating to the international crisis, most of which was negative. He spoke on the immediate effects which the crisis has had on our country, stressing our own shortcomings which, added to the impact of the world crisis, hinder our nation's development.

[Begin Kerekou recording] Now that our revolutionary people and state are being sorely tried by the pernicious and inevitable effects of the galloping inflation imported from the industrialized countries; now that the lack of patriotism, technical competence, and professional consciousness is being openly displayed by some officials of our revolutionary state in the exercise of their political, economic, and administrative functions; now that a severe global economic, monetary, and financial crisis increasingly demands rigor from our revolutionary people, party, and state in the sound and democratic management of public affairs; now that our internal trade is characterized by an illicit increase in prices of essential commodities and our external trade is showing an unfavorable balance; now that our public, semi-public, and provincial enterprises are constantly resorting to overdrafts; now that the resources of our banks are considerably depleted; now that the constant deterioration of the terms of trade has created disturbances and tension in our public finances resulting from external constraints; and now that protectionist measures are being adopted by some states in our subregion, it is imperative that all active elements of the nation be mobilized, organized, and guided in unity of thought and action by our vanguard party — the Party of the Beninese People's Revolution [PRPB] — so that they may participate actively and effectively in the correct and diligent execution of all the great and permanent tasks of the democratic and popular Beninese revolution.

This means that our revolutionary party and state should no longer allow themselves to be distracted by personal disputes, complacency, irresponsibility, thoughtlessness, ill will, political, intellectual, and moral dishonesty, and the destructive activities and evil designs of sabotage drawn up by the reactionary and counterrevolutionary elements which still lie snugly at all levels of our revolutionary institutions.

Militants of the Beninese revolution: The national and international economic situation is very serious. Collective security and world peace are being threatened. Therefore, our people — the revolutionary people of the People's Republic of Benin — must rise up as one man throughout the national territory in order to combat the sabotage deliberately organized by local and foreign reactionaries. They must unmask and mercilessly combat all counterrevolutionaries and all those who sabotage our national economy and our great revolutionary movement of national liberation launched on 26 October 1972. Our revolutionary people, party, and state must always be prepared to victoriously confront — with courage, self-sacrifice, and heroism — any event that may be imposed upon us by international imperialism and its local valets who, blinded by material and financial wealth, and by an incorrect analysis of the national balance of forces — as was the case on Sunday, 16 January 1977 [reference to the date of an abortive attack on Cotonou] — may again attempt to endanger our revolution.[end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Receives Visiting Cuban Delegation

AB012140 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] A three-man Cuban delegation in the country for a year's coaching assignment today paid a courtesy call on the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, at the castle, Osu. Welcoming the sports experts, Flight Lt Rawlings assured them of the support and cooperation of the PNDC in the discharge of their assignment. The leader of the group, Mr (Androlei Gouas Hassan) expressed deep appreciation to the chairman for meeting them. He assured the chairman that the group would do its best to raise the level of sports in the country. Earlier, the Cuban sports experts had called on the secretary for youth and sports, Mr Amarkai Amarteifio.

Botchway on Success of Donor's Conference in Paris

AB010910 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, says it is the realistic and consistent nature of the various aspects of the government economic recovery program that led to the success of the donor conference on Ghana held in Paris. He was speaking to newsmen at the Accra airport on his return from the conference. The meeting, which was hosted by the World Bank, was the first of its kind in 13 years, and, according to Dr Botchway, the pledges made by the donor countries and organizations were more than the government had expected. The donors pledged over $150 million for the first year of the recovery program, which is next year, and most of the pledges are in the form of outright grants and long-term loans with very soft conditions for repayment.

Dr Botchway said in addition to the economic soundness of the program presented to the meeting, the political measures taken by the Provisional National Defense Council, [PNDC] also greatly encouraged the participants to assist Ghana. He said the priority areas that concerned the government were rehabilitation of existing infrastructure, the export sector and agriculture. The government was also interested in securing emergency resources to supply food for next year because of the problems caused by drought. He said the fact that so many resources were pledged at the meeting was proof of the viability of the government's recovery program. He added that since the budget was announced last April, the country has received pledges of assistance totalling about $600 million. Another donors meeting on Ghana is expected to be held in about a year's time, also in Paris.

World Bank President Arrives for Official Visit
AB010905 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The president of the World Bank, Mr Clausen, arrived in Accra last night for a 4-day visit to the country. It is the first visit to Ghana by a president of the World Bank in 10 years.

Mr Clausen commended the economic recovery program of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], and said though the path chosen is difficult, it is essential for the economic growth and development of the country. He said the success of the consultative group on Ghana meeting in Paris shows how viable the program is. According to Mr Clausen, the World Bank is particularly interested in increasing its assistance to countries in sub-Saharan Africa because of the adverse worldwide economic situation and the prolonged drought that has affected the area. But he added that countries which take assistance from the bank must ensure that their own domestic policies are shaped to make the most efficient use of their local resources.

Mr Clausen said under the last budget last April, the bank has given Ghana more than $60 million out of the total of about $470 million which was given to the country since independence. Mr Clausen, who will be holding discussions with several top government officials and touring certain parts of the country, said the visit would give him an opportunity to see at first hand the progress of projects which have been carried out with assistance from the bank. He said the bank's main interest in Ghana in the immediate future is the rehabilitation of key sectors like agriculture, transport, energy, timber, and gold. He was accompanied by a six-man delegation, including the vice president of the World Bank for West Africa, David Know; the divisional chief executive for Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Liberia, Nicholas Gibbs; and the executive director for Ghana at the bank, Bernard Shehu.

He was met on arrival by the PNDC coordinating secretary, P.V. Obeng; the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway; the secretary for information, Miss Joyce Aryee; and the UNDP [UN Development Program] resident director, (Wilnish Shelbeck). Mr (Shelbeck) said from 1981 till April this year, the bank did not make any commitments to Ghana because the overall conditions in the country did not encourage such assistance. But since the budget and economic recovery program were outlined, the bank has given Ghana assistance amounting to 10 percent of the total aid it has given to the country over a period of 25 years.

IVORY COAST

'Important' Upper Voltan Delegation Visits
AB011520 Paris AFP in French 1208 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Abidjan, 1 Dec (AFP) — It was learned in Abidjan on Thursday that Upper Voltan Social Affairs Minister Pale Bernadette has been in the Ivory Coast since 28 November.

Mrs Bernadette, who is leading an important delegation, was involved in a working session at the Foreign Ministry on 29 November with officials from the Ivorian Social Affairs Ministry.

On Thursday, the Upper Voltan delegation will visit the village of Anono, near Abidjan, where it will witness a demonstration of community activities. Later in the day, it will visit the village nursery of Adjame-Bingerville and hold talks with the National Committee for Social Action.

A meeting to assess the results of the visit will be held at the Social Affairs Ministry on Friday to end the Upper Voltan delegation's stay in the Ivory Coast.

LIBERIA

Captain Sought in Coup Plot Surrenders
AB021230 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] One of the 11 persons wanted by the Defense Ministry in connection with the alleged plot to overthrow the People's Redemption Council [PRC] government has given himself up to members of the joint security. He is Captain Allan Davies, who surrendered to the joint security in Nimba County on Tuesday.

According to a local newspaper report, Capt Davies is the first wanted person to surrender since the government uncovered a plot to overthrow the PRC last week. The paper did not say whether Capt Davies has been brought to Monrovia for interrogation.

The paper says the joint security is mounting a massive search for the remaining 10 persons for their alleged involvement in the plot. The others include former Commanding General Thomas Quiwonkpa, former Deputy Internal Affairs Minister Samuel Dokie, Edward Voka, and Isaac Dan. The Defense Ministry also named the former Nimba County superintendant Joseph Fangallow, Augustin Wright, James Galakpa, Major Anthony McQueen, and Lieutenant Cooper Thiar.

Japan Agrees To Extend Debt Repayment Schedule
AB020815 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The governments of Liberia and Japan have reached an agreement on debt relief measures including extention of debt repayment dates. An announcement by the Japanese Foreign Ministry yesterday said that the debt covered by the measures are those the Liberian Government owes their overseas economic cooperation fund and the (Essons) Bank of Japan. According to the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, the total debt covered by the relief measures amounts to $1.2 million. The debts matured between 1 January 1982 and 30 June 1983.

Under the agreement, 90 percent of the debt is to be paid off in five yearly installments after a grace period of 5 years.

NIGERIA

Shagari Sends Note to UN on Palestinian Issue

AB011153 Lagos NAN in English 1120 GMT 1 Dec 83

[By Lawrence Ukwu]

[Text] New York, Dec 1 (NAN) — President Shehu Shagari has reiterated that Nigeria will continue to be actively associated with the Palestinian cause until the ultimate objective of self-determination of the Palestinians is achieved.

The president said in a message on Tuesday to the United Nations that Nigeria would continue to make its own contribution through the auspices of the world body and contacts with the PLO which it recognizes as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The New York correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reports that the message was to mark the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Alhaji Shehu regretted the recent outbreak of fighting among Palestinian brothers in Lebanon, adding that the eruption of such clashes with the attendant loss of lives could only divert attention from the real problem. He also said it will dissipate energy and resources which should properly be harnessed for the liberation struggle and the achievement of national self-determination.

President Shagari declared: "I call on all Palestinian brothers to settle their internal differences in a peaceful and democratic way."

On the recently concluded international conference on the question of Palestine which took place in Geneva, President Shagari said that it was the hope and aspiration of Nigeria that recommendations of the meeting would be implemented without much hindrance.

Concluding, the president said: "Nigeria totally rejects the evils of racial discrimination whether in the occupied territories or in southern Africa. We reject the acquisition of territories by force and call on Israel to withdraw its forces for the Palestinians to exercise their inalienable right of self determination."

NPN Denies Trying To Stop Gowon's Return

AB020902 Lagos NAN in English 0835 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Lagos, Dec 1 (NAN) — The NPN [National Party of Nigeria] said today in Lagos that it had no reason whatsoever to be worried about the proposed return of the former head of state, Gen Yakubu Gowon, to the country.

Reacting to today's publication by *PUNCH* that President Shehu Shagari had sent a former senior cabinet minister to dissuade Gen Gowon from returning to the country, the party said that the news item was the imagination of its authors. The NPN explained that at no time did its top caucus discuss the issue of Gen Gowon nor its chances in the 1987 presidential election.

The party said: "The assertion that the NPN was frightened by Gowon's potential in the 1987 presidential race was designed to cause mischief and divert the attention of the party from its present preoccupation of finding solutions to the problems facing the country."

Chairmen of Senate Committees Announced

AB011225 Lagos NAN in English 1155 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Lagos, Dec 1 (NAN) — The Senate president, Dr Joseph Wayas, yesterday announced the names of chairmen for Senate committees. The list of the names are as follows:

Sen Mohammed Lawan (Agriculture)

Sen Lawrence Agunbiade (Water Resources)

Sen Edwin Clark (Industries and Steel)

Sen Ahmadu Ali (Internal Affairs and Police)

Sen Godwin Okpe (Commerce)

Sen Dauzia Etete (Petroleum and Energy)

Sen Jafaru Mangga (Communications)

Sen Abubakar Magaji (Mines and Power)

Sen Mohammed Ambi (Transport and Aviation)

Sen Isa Dabai (Defence)

Sen Sunday Iyahen (Information)

Sen Manassa Daniel (Finance and Appropriation)

Sen Lai Joseph (National Planning)

Sen Ahmadu Rufai (Federal Capital Territory)

Sen Victor Akan (Public Service)

Sen Adejo Ogiri (Judiciary)

Sen Abubakar Tuggar (Foreign Relations)

Sen Buba Lamu (States Creations)

Sen Abudu Mashi (Education)

Sen Shehu Usman (Banking and Currency)

Sen Joseph Ansa (Labour)

Sen Yekini Adise (Health)

Sen Walid Jibrin (Science and Technology).

The chairmanship of the Committee on Public Accounts goes to

the UPN senator from Lagos, Sen Abayomi Durosimi. The Senate president heads the Committee on National Security.

UPPER VOLTA

Reorganization of Army, Foreign Ministry Approved

AB011515 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers met yesterday, Wednesday, 30 November 1983, at 0900 under the chairmanship of Head of State Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR]. The council examined and adopted several reports, listened to various oral presentations, and made a number of appointments. The council reviewed several reports and adopted 10 of them.

The first concerned the administrative chart relating to the reorganization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. To ensure strict conformity with the main foreign policy directives defined by the revolutionary government, the new chart incorporates two major innovations: The press and cooperation directorates have been abolished and a directorate of cultural and scientific affairs has been created. Far from duplicating the functions of the Ministry of National Education, Arts, and Culture, these directorates will be specifically responsible for the study of the texts, documents, and agreements proposed by foreign chancelleries and international organizations.

The fifth report concerns the organization of the Ministry of Defense and War Veterans. This ministry's new administrative chart is in strict compliance with the CNR's desire to effect a total break between the former army, with its neocolonial structures, and the new army, which is resolutely engaged in the revolutionary struggle alongside the people, with whom it seeks to be identified. The plan has a number of new features, including the creation of a division to be headed by a civilian with the rank of administrator of financial services. This puts an end to the mystery that surrounded the parasitic, neocolonial army which, due to so-called military secrets, had been getting the lion's share of the state budget. This also puts an end to the so-called apolitical nature of our soldiers in line with the belief that a soldier without political training is a potential criminal. The Army High Command henceforth includes a Division of Political Orientation and Production.

The council heard several mission reports and, after making a number of appointments, concluded its meeting at 1530. Concerning the appointments, Comrade Sankara appointed (Mousbiya Kedaye) as ambassador to Libya, Comrade Frederic (Korsaga) as ambassador to the Ivory Coast, and Comrade Diallo Ama Amadou as economic counselor in Moscow.

'Cultural Cooperation' Protocol Signed With USSR

AB020852 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] A protocol on cultural cooperation was signed by the governments of the USSR and Upper Volta yesterday afternoon at the Foreign Ministry. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Melnikov of the Soviet Union signed on behalf of his country in the presence of his closest aides. The Upper Voltan Government was represented by Minister of Foreign Affairs Arba Diallo, who expressed satisfaction with the efforts being made by the Soviet Union to strengthen bilateral relations in the field of cooperation.

He concluded by expressing hope that the signing of this cultural and scientific agreement will mark a closer friendship between the peoples of Upper Volta and the Soviet Union. Comrade Diallo was accompanied by Comrade Prosper Sempaore, director general of cultural affairs, who was representing the minister of national education, arts, and culture; Comrade Ludovic Ouedraogo, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Comrade Paul Desire Kabore, the director of bilateral cooperation.

Toure Interviewed During Albanian Trip

AU011220 Tirana ATA in English 0930 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Tirana, December 1 (ATA) — A government delegation of Upper Volta led by the minister of information, Adama Toure, was on a friendly visit to our country these days.

In regard to the impressions from his stay in our country, the minister of information of Upper Volta Adama Toure said in his interview: We have seen and heard much on socio-economic transformations made by the Albanian people, under the leadership of the PLA [Party of Labor of Albania] with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. The Albanian comrades made us a warm, fraternal and revolutionary welcome. Everywhere we were received wholeheartedly. The Albanians showed us of everything that the party and people have made since the liberation in 1944. From what we saw, we draw the conclusion that the Albanian people are a proud people, a people that have achieved happiness relying on their own forces, a people that preserve their freedom and independence resolutely, a people that have made every sacrifice in defence of their independence and dignity and that have built a new, happy Albania which marches always forward under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania. What impressed us most during the talks we had with the state authorities was the talk with Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania.

Through this talk, we were informed of the revolutionary experience of the Albanian people, of what the Albanian people have achieved and how they have achieved, which are the efforts and the sacrifices of the Albanian people to record the present results. What we have seen, Adama Toure continued further on, show that the Albanian people had to make many sacrifices to set up a new Albania. Thanks to these sacrifices, the people transformed Albania from a poor country, from a backward agricultural country it was in 1944, into an advanced agricultural industrial country with a great progress made to its interest.

Speaking further on about the situation in Upper Volta, the minister of information, Adama Toure, stressed: The revolution of August 4 which we call the democratic and people's

revolution was a result of the long patriotic, anti-imperialist and revolutionary struggle of the people of Upper Volta waged by different revolutionary organisations, represented by all the revolutionaries and patriots of Upper Volta. In fact, our people never reconciled themselves with the colonial dictate. They opposed it in different forms. The history of the struggle of the people of Upper Volta is long and rich. This anti-colonial struggle, the anti-imperialist one, extended, starting from 60's, hence since the proclamation of the independence, which was, in fact, a nominal independence, which did not free the people of Upper Volta. August 4,1983, he said in conclusion, marks for us the triumph of this long anti-imperialist struggle waged by the people of Upper Volta. From August 4, 1983, the people of Upper Volta are free in their policy, economy and social life.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Holds Meetings With Three Envoys

MB011022 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, had separate meetings the day before yesterday with the ambassadors of Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe accredited to our country, Aguinaldo Lisboa Ramos and Ariosto de Castelo David, respectively. On the same day the chairman of the party and president of the republic also received the Yugoslav ambassador to Angola, Dimitrije Babic. During the meetings held at Futungo de Belas in Luanda, the participants dealt with issues of bilateral interest.

MPLA Official Comments on UNITA, Namibia, Linkage

MB010827 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The terrorist UNITA gang, despite the support it receives from South Africa, is doomed to disappear because all its fronts have been destroyed by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]. This was said by the secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for Foreign Affairs, Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, in an interview with the Mozambique newspaper *NOTICIAS*. According to the Angolan official, UNITA — an instrument of destabilization belonging entirely to Pretoria and whose objectives are to expand its operations into central and northern Angola — has been frustrated by FAPLA, which has also been freeing members of the public who were being threatened by UNITA. In his interview, the secretary of the Central Committee for Foreign Affairs said that the offensive under way and the great support of the broad masses for our forces mark the beginning of a counter-offensive and the guarantee of victory over the enemy. He also cited as victories of the Angolan people the setting up of regional military councils, the successful creation of people's vigilante brigades and militia forces, and the growing voluntary incorporation of youths into FAPLA.

Comrade Mbinda also reaffirmed Angola's position on the settlement of the Namibian problem, stressing that the problem stems from Pretoria's need to maintain positions from which it can continue to destabilize neighboring countries. Asked to comment on the new kind of linkage providing for the replacement of Cuban internationalist troops by an African multinational force, the Angolan official said the proposal is unviable, and pointed out that the maintenance of any kind of force in our territory is a question which solely concerns Angolan sovereignty and which, therefore, only Angola has the competence to decide.

We recall that Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda left Maputo the day before yesterday at the end of a 1-week visit to Mozambique. The visit, it should be stressed, ended with the signing of a cooperation agreement between the MPLA-Labor Party and the Frelimo Party and a protocol of cooperation for 1984-85 which covers concrete measures for broadening ties between the two parties.

UN Envoy Says U.S. Policy Fosters RSA Crimes

MB010720 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The crimes carried out in Angola and throughout southern Africa by the racist Pretoria regime have been analyzed in New York during the 38th session of the UN General Assembly. The Angolan representative at the United Nations, Elisio de Figueiredo, who addressed the assembly, said that what is regarded as a policy of constructive engagement between Washington and Pretoria has caused a dangerous hotbed of tension in the southern region of the African Continent. The Angolan representative added that the Pretoria regime, encouraged by the support of the U.S. Administration, does not restrain itself from carrying out crimes in southern Africa, particularly in the People's Republic of Angola, where for over 2 years it has been occupying a vast portion of Cunene Province. Elisio de Figueiredo said that, notwithstanding this and other situations, the Angolan people will never stop giving their support to SWAPO and the ANC, which are fighting for the freedom of their peoples.

Tribunal Condemns U.S., RSA, Israeli Policy

MB011220 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The international tribunal, Children Accuse Imperialism, concluded its proceedings last night with the approvaland reading of a final verdict, which condemns the U.S imperialist, warlike regime led by the Reagan administration as the main culprit in the aggravation of the situation of exploitation, poverty, and oppression affecting the greater part of the world's population, including millions of children. The minority racist South African regime was also found guilty of continuing its inhuman apartheid policy, which cruelly affects the daily lives of children and hreatens their future because of the intensification of its policy of police and armed suppression against the majority of the population, its illegal occupation of Namibia, and its repeated attacks on the independent neighboring states of southern Africa. Included in this was the illegal occupation of an important part of the territory of the People's Republic of Angola, which in addition to inflicting considerable material damage, forces a significant number of Angolan youths to sacrifice their lives.

The Zionist, colonialist regime of Israel, an instrument of U.S. policy in the Middle East, was also found guilty by the international tribunal. Among other crimes, it was found guilty of carrying out a war of extermination against the Palestinian people, carrying out criminal attacks against a neighboring ocuntry, namely Lebanon, and pursuing a policy of discrimination against the Arab population under its jurisdiction. The tribunal also condemned Morocco and Indonesia and the crimes committed by them against the populations of the Western Sahara and East Timor. It also condemned all the countries allied to the United States which support its inhuman and aggressive policy. It appealed to the conscience of the people of

the whole world to unite and resolutely confront imperialism for peace and the freedom of mankind.

The international tribunal, Children Accuse Imperialism, which ended in Luanda yesterday, began on 28 November. It heard 14 charges by youth organizations from Africa, Asia, Central and South America, and Oceania, as well as testimony from witnesses who have been direct victims of criminal acts and from several former agents of imperialism.

LESOTHO

Further on Security Meeting With RSA Officials

MB010912 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] A meeting between Lesotho and South African officials was held in Maseru yesterday following an earlier one held in Pretoria on 10 August this year. The meeting discussed various issues of mutual interest, including aspects of security, with a view to improving relations between Lesotho and South Africa on the basis of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and integrity.

The Lesotho delegation, which was led by the permanent secretary for foreign affairs, Mr (M.T. Thabane), was composed of the solicitor general, Mr (M.A. Motlhoki); Major General J.M. Lekhanya; Major General G.J. Molapo; Major General R.S. Matela; Mr (A. Monyau), permanent secretary in the prime minister's offices; and Mr (W.T. van Tonder), deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On the South African side were officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information in Pretoria, South African railways police, South African Defense Force, South African police, and South African National Intelligence Service. The South African delegation left Lesotho yesterday afternoon.

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Seeks Aid for Drought-Stricken Areas

MB011944 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The Government of Mozambique is seeking international assistance to provide seeds for drought-affected areas now that rains have begun to fall. The Mozambique Government is presenting a list of its priorities to friendly governments and organizations. Seeds are the urgent priority to ensure that peasants can benefit from the rains. The government is asking that the money that would be pledged should be used primarily to buy seeds in southern Africa. The government has said 250,000 tons of grain are needed until April next year. This amount is in addition to the 124,000 tons already pledged by the international community.

A government official today said all is being done to help peasants. He added that international aid is coming in, but much more is needed if Mozambique is to avoid a catastrophe. The official described as an exaggeration a report in Britain's international television news on Monday that 75,000 people have died, but he said the situation is dramatic. The official said in the southern Provinces of Gaza and Inhambane 11 districts have been seriously affected by the activities of the South Africa-backed Quizumba bandits. A total of 700,000 people in those districts are suffering from acute malnutrition. He pointed out that in drought areas unaffected by banditry very few people have starved to death because the government had managed to keep a regular flow of international food aid to the peasants throughout the drought. The official said in areas affected by banditry food for the peasants was either stolen or burned during ambushes on lorries transporting supplies. In addition the bandits attacked villagers, robbing them of whatever little they had stored from previous harvests. The official said food aid was now being distributed in these areas following an Army offensive against the bandits.

The Army destroyed many bandit camps, including their central base at Hati-Hati in Gaza Province and their operational base at Tome in Inhambane Province during August, September, and October this year.

NAMIBIA

Christian Democrats Withdraw From Conference

MB011307 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 24 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Rohr Exits"]

[Text] The withdrawal of Mr Hans Rohr's Namibian Christian Democratic Party from the multiparty conference will not affect the continuation of the deliberations.

It is a pity that Mr Rohr decided against remaining in the talks. It is evident that the multiparty conference would have wanted to be as representative as possible. But it would be foolish to allow a party as small as that of Mr Rohr's to interfere with matters as essential as those under consideration by the multiparty conference.

So it is better that Mr Rohr rather busies himself with other matters. The parties in the conference know what they are about and will certainly not be petrified with dismay.

SOUTH AFRICA

FRG Trade Mission Head Calls for Increased Exports

MB011150 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The head of a trade mission from the West German port city of Bremen, Mr (A. Jakkel), said South Africa should try to increase its exports of manufactured goods to Europe, and Germany in particular. Mr (Jakkel) told a youth conference in Cape Town that increased exports of manufactured goods appear to be the best prospect for reducing the trade imbalance between South Africa and Germany. He said last year German exports to South Africa amounted to about $2.5 billion compared with South

Africa's exports to Germany which amounted to just over $1 billion. He said that for South African exporters to successfully enter the German market, they should have to go to Germany to see if the market was what they wanted. They would also have to be prepared to make a long-term commitment to exports. Textile exporters have made some progress, he said.

Cahora Bassa Power Cuts Subject of Botha Talks
MB010931 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 1 Dec 83 p 2

[By *MAIL* correspondent]

[Text] There has been no power to South Africa from the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric dam in Mozambique since October. An Escom spokesman said yesterday the most recent power stoppage was due either to "sabotage or a fault, we are not sure which."

This break in supply is the latest in a series of frequent cuts since the two lines supplying South Africa from the Cahora Bassa scheme came fully into service in 1979.

After a six-month break when the power lines were knocked out by fighting between the Mozambique army and guerrillas, said to be of the Mozambique National Resistance, power to South Africa was resumed in June.

Only two months later, in August, guerrillas belonging to the Mozambique National Resistance Movement claimed responsibility for cutting off the power after sabotaging pylons.

The Cahora Bassa scheme was a major subject in talks held in Portugal this week between Mr Pik Botha, the minister of foreign affairs, and his Portuguese counterpart, Mr Jaime Gama.

An Escom spokesman said yesterday the dam was able to supply South Africa with some 5 percent of her total daily electrical needs.

In talks between Mr Pik Botha and Mr Jaime Gama, Portugal complained that revenue from Cahora Bassa had dwindled because of acts of sabotage to the powerlines by anti-government rebels in Mozambique.

Minister Says Ciskei State of Emergency To Continue
MB011809 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The state of emergency in Ciskei will not be lifted for independence celebrations this weekend. That is according to Ciskei Minister of Justice David Takane. Takane says residents will still require written permission from the Mdantsane station commander if they have to break the 2200-0430 curfew. The state of emergency, which was declared in August this year, followed events during the peak of a successful bus boycott in Mdantsane.

Indian Council To Give Constitution 'Fair Trial'
MB010947 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The South African Indian Council has approved by 30 votes to 4 a motion to give the new constitution a fair trial. The motion, which was put forward by the chairman of the executive committee, Mr Rajbansi, was adopted after a debate lasting 1 and 1/2 days. The council decided not to rescind a resolution adopted in May this year, asking the government to call a referendum anong Indians on the new constitution.

Many members of the council said during the debate that they believed that a referendum was essential. However, some members, including Mr Rajbansi, expressed reservations about a referendum, in view of the intimidation which could be expected. Mr Rajbansi's motion to give the constitution a fair trial was amended slightly to include two provisos. These were: that the council noted that the Republic of South Africa Constitution Act did not satisfy the ideals of the council and that by participating in the constitution, Indians will be able to play a meaningful role in the removal of discriminatory laws and practices. The council's resolution will now be sent to the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and the minister of internal affairs, Mr F. W. de Klerk.

SAIC Decision Criticized
MB011005 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Angry reaction has greeted the decision by the South African Indian Council [SAIC] to participate in the government's new constitution. Carmen Ricard reports from Durban:

[Begin recording] The SAIC decision represents a flagrant and criminal disregard of the views of both the majority of the Indian community and the South African people as a whole, according to the Natal publicity secretary of the United Democratic Front. (Saths Jacoob) was responding to last night's decision by the SAIC to give the new deal, in its words, the fair trial which it deserves. The motion was carried by 30 votes to 4. Natal Indian Congress spokesman Mwe Ramgobin has also reacted sharply, claiming it was nonsense to say, as the SAIC has done, that they will participate in the new deal in order to change apartheid legislation. The SAIC will never be able to repeal the Group Areas Act or the laws that create homelands, because they will still have no real power in terms of the new constitution. [end recording]

AZAPO Offices Raided; Protest Meetings Set
MB011804 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Security police have raided the head office of the Azanian People's Organization [AZAPO] in Johannesburg. AZAPO Vice President Saths Cooper says the raid took place at about midday. A number of pamphlets and posters opposing the black local authority elections were seized in the raid as well as policy

documents, AZAPO conference publications, and a national forum booklet. Cooper says meetings have been organized in Johannesburg to protest against the authority elections.

[Begin recording] All these meetings will proceed, and we have been warned that if we distribute pamphlets and put up the posters and banners that we are preparing over the weekend, we are liable for prosecution. We view this as a threat which we are not taking lightly, and our campaign is going to be going ahead despite the attempt to intimidate us. [end recording]

SWAZILAND

Bhekimpi Makes Statement on Arrival From New Delhi

MB011833 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, says this year's Commonwealth summit for heads of states and governments held in New Delhi, India was successful. Addressing members of Liqoqo, members of parliament, government officials, and members of the diplomatic corps on his arrival at Matsapha Airport today, the prime minister said the heads of states and government had no difficulties in reaching agreements, as the nature of the Commonwealth allows its members to speak out their minds. Prince Bhekimpi commended the procedure of the Commonwealth whereby people speak their minds, yet resolutions are not decided on votes.

The Commonwealth summit discussed the problem of Namibia's independence, the problems of Grenada, Cyprus, Lebanon, the superpowers, and the world economy. The next Commonwealth summit for heads of states and governments will be held in the Bahamas in 1985.

ZAMBIA

Prime Minister Announces Increase in Finnish Aid

MB010839 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia disclosed in Lusaka last night that Finland is to increase its aid to Zambia from the current 11 million to 13 million kwacha per year over the next 2 years. Speaking at a cocktail reception he hosted for visiting Finnish Minister of Environment Matti Ahde at a Lusaka hotel, Mr Mundia said that the aid is to be given [words indistinct]. This assistance is given on a grant basis, and it also takes into account Zambia's priority areas of investment. The prime minister has invited both private and public entrepreneurs from Finland to invest more in the Zambian economy. He said Zambia enjoys unique political stability, which is a necessary condition for the inflow of external capital.

Speaking at a press conference later, Mr Ahde said that Finland was committed to supporting Zambia's efforts at economic development and self-reliance. The minister also said that Zambia and Finland share many common viewpoints on international, social, and economic development. He pledged that Zambia and Finnish ties will continue to grow stronger in the years to come.

Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia has said Zambia's debt servicing position has continued to deteriorate. Speaking at the same cocktail reception he hosted for the visiting Finnish minister of environment at a Lusaka hotel, Mr Mundia said that Zambia's deteriorating debt position will continue to result in the postponement of some national development plans. He said Zambia's debt servicing position has been worsening mainly due to the recession in the world economy.

Owing to this recession, the price of the main foreign exchange earner, copper, has been falling to such a level that some of the mines are becoming unprofitable. He said this has made the balance of payments deteriorate, with the consequences being that projected development plans — particularly those with heavy foreign exchange components in the form of captial equipment — cannot be implemented.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Says Country Misrepresented in Press

MB011309 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The minister of natural resources and tourism, Comrade Victoria Chitepo, says Zimbabwe has been misunderstood and misrepresented in many parts of the world by negative, biased, and distorted reports in the overseas press. ZIANA reports that Comrade Chitepo is currently in London, where she is attending the world travel market exhibition, which is being attended by leading buyers and sellers in the tourism and travel business.

Welcoming visitors to the Zimbabwe stand, Comrade Chitepo said the country's image has suffered considerable damage due to the tendency to distort events and development in Zimbabwe and the southern African region. According to the text of her speech released in Harare yesterday, Comrade Chitepo emphasized that internal problems have affected only small, remote areas in one province of the country, and not the country as a whole. The minister also said Zimbabwe's peace and development are threatened by racist South Africa, which blatantly seeks to destabilize all its neighbors in order to defend its racial internal policies and colonial policy in Namibia.

Minister Discusses Labor Regulations Bill

MB011940 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The minister of labor and social services, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai, says labor regulations are not meant to protect unproductive workers. In an interview broadcast on radio for this evening on the program "The Lawmakers", Comrade Kangai warned that workers who will be found drunk while on duty will be dismissed.

He also warned officers or individuals who will be caught misappropriating drought relief food that they will be arrested. Com-

rade Kangai referred to a labor regulations bill which will soon be brought before parliament. He said the bill will seek to protect the rights of the workers, employers, and the (?authorities).

Government To Float New $25 Million Loan

MB010725 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The Government of Zimbabwe is to float a new 20-year loan for an amount of $25 million. Subscription lists will be opened at 9 am on Thursday, 15 December and will be closed when fully subscribed or, at the latest, at noon on the same day. The purpose of the loan is to assist in financing expenditures in connection with economic, social, and administrative services. Applications — which must be for not less than $100, the nominal value of stock or a multiple thereof — should be made to the stock office of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.